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DAILY REPORT

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CRITICISM MOUNTS OVER REWRITING HISTORY IN TEXTBOOKS

OW270121 Tokyo KYODO in English 0042 GMT 27 Jul 82

[Text] Tokyo, July 27, KYODO -- Japan has run into a hard position because of mounting criticism from China, North and South Korea, Taiwan and Singapore against Japan's rewriting of history in school textbooks.

Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki, calmly reacting to the foreign criticism, told newsmen Monday night that the Education Minister recommends publishers to improve or rewrite expressions every year.

A high ranking Foreign Ministry official said Monday night that expressions should be corrected if they run counter to facts, indirectly criticizing education authorities for rewriting textbooks. The official, who declined to be named, expressed worries about possible deterioration of Japan's external relations with these countries.

A senior Education Ministry official told newsmen late Monday night his ministry would fully study a Chinese protest filed earlier in the day. Isao Suzuki, head of the ministry's Elementary and Secondary Education Bureau, said he had not expected the matter to develop into such a major diplomatic issue.

On Monday, China protested against Japan's rewriting of history in school textbooks which they claim violates "the spirit of the 1972 Sino-Japanese joint statement." The Chinese Foreign Ministry summoned Minister Koji Watanabe of the Japanese Embassy in Beijing to express the protest. It was the first official diplomatic representation by a foreign country concerning the textbook revision issue. The high ranking Foreign Ministry official said, "Our basic position is as set forth in the joint Japan-China statement in 1972, that we deplore and repent our past faults."

Chinese and South Korean media have been sharply critical of the rewriting of Japanese school textbooks which they claim distort facts about the Japanese invasion of China and rule over Korea before 1945.

In the newly approved textbooks, such terms as "military aggression" and "deportation of Koreans for forced labor" were deleted and substituted by milder euphemisms such as "advance" and "implementation of the national mobilization order to Koreans." Newspapers of North Korea, the United States and Singapore have joined in criticizing the rewording.

In the 1972 statement, which opened formal relations between Japan and China, Japan acknowledged responsibilities for destruction caused to the Chinese people during the Sino-Japanese war of 1937-45.

Meanwhile, in South Korea, Prime Minister Kim Sang-kyop called a meeting of Cabinet ministers concerned Monday to discuss allegedly distorted descriptions in Japanese school textbooks about history of the two countries. This was the first South Korean Government reaction to the current controversy concerning the textbooks which many South Koreans claim justified Japan's 1910-45 colonial rule of Korea or ignored vital facts about the military occupation.

The Cabinet meeting was apparently held in response to the current press campaign against the Japanese Education Ministry which is in charge of screening and approving school textbooks. Although it was not immediately known if the Cabinet meeting discussed any specific description in the textbooks, it is believed to have touched on the fact that some Japanese publishing companies followed the ministry's "editorial guidance" and dropped an explanation from their textbooks about Korean forced laborers in Japan during World War II.

The Seoul government said it is now looking into details of the textbook dispute, including the statement allegedly made by Japanese National Land Agency Chief Yukiyasu Matsuno, a state minister.

The Korean Government, being pressed by some news media to get tough toward Japan, may take proper diplomatic action if necessary, a government spokesman said.

The opposition Korea Democratic Party, meanwhile, issued a statement Monday and expressed suspicion that the Japanese Education Ministry distorted historical facts in an attempt to justify Japan's wartime militarism. In addition, a group of South Korean national assemblymen will send an executive member to Tokyo Tuesday and ask Japanese lawmakers to make school textbooks free of prejudices about Korea.

North Korea, which does not normally follow Seoul's initiative, has joined South Korea in denouncing the Japanese education policy.

The Japanese textbooks were submitted to the ministry for approval for use at schools beginning next school year.

Other textbook publishers, in response to the ministry's censorship, toned down terms about anti-Japanese riotings in Korea and oppression by the colonial rulers against the Korean people.

Suzuki on PRC Protest

OW270211 Tokyo NHK Television Network in Japanese 0100 GMT 27 Jul 82

[Text] Answering a press corps question this morning regarding the Chinese Government's formal protest on 26 July over textbook censorship by Japan's Education Ministry, Prime Minister Suzuki said that for the time being Japan will seek to win China's understanding through persuasion.

He said, now that a formal protest has been filed by the Chinese Government, Japan should make a full explanation of the system of textbook authorization in Japan and seek to win China's understanding by conveying Japan's real intentions. He added that Japan should endeavor not to let such an issue develop into a diplomatic question.

Answering another question, if he was going to resolve the issue before his scheduled visit to China in September this year, Prime Minister Suzuki said that he is not setting any specific deadline but that such an issue should be resolved as soon as possible. Thus, he indicated that he would seek an early solution to the issue.

Steps To Stem Criticism

OW270632 Tokyo KYODO in English 0555 GMT 27 Jul 82

[Excerpts] Tokyo, July 27, KYODO -- Japan took steps Tuesday to stem mounting foreign criticisms over controversial revision of high school textbooks describing Japan's role in China and South Korea before and during World War II. Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki instructed government officials to work out measures to tell China and South Korea his country's "true motive" and win their understanding of alterations in textbooks.

Xiao Xiangqian, director of the 1st Asian Affairs Department of the Chinese Foreign Ministry, summoned a Japanese Embassy official in Beijing Monday and requested a correction in the contents of textbooks. The South Korea Cabinet met Monday to discuss the matter, but it has thus far refrained from taking any formal action.

Prime Minister Suzuki's Cabinet met Tuesday morning and supported his instruction, although some Cabinet ministers expressed reservations.

Yukiyasu Matsuno, director general of the National Land Agency, was quoted as saying that he wondered whether it was desirable for Japan to "distort the fact of history" and prepare textbooks in accordance with what other countries say about Japan's involvement in China and South Korea.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Kiichi Miyazawa told newsmen Tuesday morning the government remained unchanged in its "basic" stance for expressing its profound reflections for its aggression to China.

He said China would understand if Japan explains fully on textbook changes. He said Japan should not delay in seeking settlement of the controversy.

An official of the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party noted that Japan currently maintains unprecedentedly friendly relations with both China and South Korea and added that his party and the Education Ministry would make all-out efforts to gain understanding of the two neighboring countries.

The government's apparent change in its stance from that of a "prudent attitude" to positive steps to prevent further spread of foreign criticisms stems from its desire to resolve the issue before Prime Minister Suzuki visits Beijing. The prime minister is scheduled to visit Beijing sometime in September on the 10th anniversary of the normalization of Japan-China relations.

Japan also wants to settle a pending issue of extending economic assistance to Seoul. Korea has been asking for dollar 6 billion for its current five-year economic development. Japan has trimmed the amount to dollar 4 billion.

HALF-YEAR JAPAN-PRC TRADE SHOWS DECREASE

OW270630 Tokyo KYODO in English 0550 GMT 27 Jul 82

[Text] Tokyo, July 27, KYODO -- Customs-cleared Sino-Japanese trade was down 13.6 percent in the first half of this year at dollar 4.4 billion from the same period a year ago due to a sharp drop in Japanese exports of plant equipment, the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) reported Tuesday. It was the first time in six years two-way trade dropped on a six-month basis, the semigovernmental trade promoting agency said.

The report said Japan's exports were off a hefty 37.2 percent at dollar 1.76 billion due to the fact that the shipment of plants to China under the country's 10-year program ended last year and that there was no new purchase of the plant equipment due to China's economic readjustment policy. Other reasons cited were China's restrictions in the imports of durable consumer goods, such as color TVs and autos to protect domestic industries, and a drop in exports of steel and textiles to China.

JETRO said, however, that Japan's imports from China during the same period were up 14.1 percent at dollar 2.7 billion due to an increase in imports of crude oil and naphtha, pig iron and ferro-alloy. As a result, Japan suffered a trade deficit of dollar 950 million against a surplus of dollar 420 million in the same period a year ago, officials said.

Japan suffered a trade deficit with China for the first time in 17 years last year, amounting to dollar 200 million and the officials predicted a substantial deficit this year. They forecast that two-way trade would decrease to around 9 billion this year from dollar 10.4 billion last year due to no prospects for recovery in Japan's exports to China although Japan's imports from China are expected to level off in the latter half of this year.

JCP CONGRESS OPENS IN ATAMI, MIYAMOTO GIVES SPEECH

OW270323 Tokyo KYODO in English 0311 GMT 27 Jul 82

[Text] Atami, Shizuoka Pref., July 27, KYODO -- Kenji Miyamoto, chairman of the Japan Communist Party, Tuesday stressed the importance of the struggle against nuclear weapons and for protection of peace.

Speaking at the opening session of the party's first congress in two and a half years, held in Atami, Miyamoto said the U.S. second special disarmament meeting in June ended without tangible results because of the "power policies" of the Western bloc countries joined by the Liberal-Democratic Party government of Japan.

He, however, highly valued the rising antinuclear and peace movements in various countries and said the 82 million signatures collected in Japan in the antinuclear campaign aimed at the U.N. disarmament session represented a "historical and epochal result."

Miyamoto called for the promotion of such a movement on a grass roots and regional level in the future and the fight against the policy of accepting the nuclear umbrella of the United States. Opposition against limited nuclear wars and existence of the Japan-U.S. security treaty are not compatible, he said.

Miyamoto also strongly criticized Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki's Cabinet, accusing it of promoting militarism and taking reactionary policies.

Miyamoto, however, refrained from strongly criticizing the Japan Socialist Party as was the case at the time of the previous party congress in 1980. He also virtually did not refer to the international communist movement or to the communist parties of the Soviet Union and China.

Miyamoto noted that the JCP membership increased (?400,000) from 1980 to 480,000. On the number of subscribers to the party paper AKAHATA (RED FLAG), the chairman said merely that it surpassed 3,550,000. He thus admitted that the party still fails to attain the target number of 4 million.

The current congress, which is to come to a close on Saturday, also marks the 60th anniversary of the JCP.

BRIEFS

AID TO GABON -- Tokyo, July 14, KYODO -- Japan will give yen 40 million (about \$160,000) in aid to Gabon for the purchase of educational equipment for use at Bongo University, the Foreign Ministry said Wednesday. It said diplomatic notes on the grant were exchanged Tuesday in Liberville between representatives of the two governments. The ministry said Bongo University, founded in 1970, is Gabon's only university. The Japanese aid will be spent for the purchase of such educational equipment as microscopes and a video system, it said. [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English 0634 GMT 14 Jul 82 OW]

AID TO YAR -- Tokyo, 19 Jul, KYODO -- Japan will extend a yen 8.2 billion (dollar 32 million) loan to North Yemen for construction of a seventh berth at Hodeidah Port, the Foreign Ministry said Monday. The two countries exchanged notes on the assistance the same day, it said. [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English 0810 GMT 19 Jul 82 OW]

DPRK SIDE TO MAC HOSTS PARTY ON LIBERATION WAR

SK270436 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0338 GMT 27 Jul 82

[Text] Pyongyang, July 27 (KCNA) -- Major General Han Chu-kyong, senior member of our side to the Military Armistice Commission, hosted a reception on the evening of July 26 to mark the 29th anniversary of the victory of the Korean people in the great fatherland liberation war.

Invited there were the member of the Chinese Peoples Volunteers of the Korean-Chinese side to the MAC and the chief and staffers of the CPV Liaison Office. Also invited were the Polish, Czechoslovak, Swiss and Swedish members and staffers of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission.

Speeches were made at the reception which took place in a friendly atmosphere.

NODONG SINMUN OBSERVES CEASE-FIRE ANNIVERSARY

SK270542 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2240 GMT 26 Jul 82

[NODONG SINMUN 27 July editorial: "The U.S. Imperialists Should Abandon Their Wild, Aggressive Desire for Korea and Withdraw From South Korea"]

[Text] Under circumstances in which a new upsurge has been brought about in production and construction through the struggle to create the speed of the 1980's in the northern half, in which the anti-U.S. struggle has been stepped up in South Korea to achieve independence and in which international solidarity with our cause for the fatherland's reunification has been strengthened further, we greet the 29th anniversary of victory in the great fatherland liberation war. Greeting this anniversary, our people are more firmly determined to force the U.S. imperialist aggressors -- who brought about the disasters of a 3-year war in Korea and who are still engaged in maneuvers for aggression and war -- to withdraw from South Korea and achieve the historic cause of the fatherland's reunification without fail.

The fatherland liberation war, which was forced on us by the U.S. imperialists, was a decisive war which determined whether our people could protect the country's independence and sovereignty or would become the colonial slaves of foreign imperialists. This war was a sacred anti-imperialist and anti-U.S. struggle to oppose the allied forces of the world's reactionaries with the U.S. imperialists as boss and to protect world peace and security. By heroically struggling under the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song to defend the country's independence and sovereignty with a single mind and body, our people and the People's Army gloriously overcame difficulties and trials in the war, forced the U.S. imperialists and their stooges to suffer a disgraceful defeat and won a historic victory.

The great victory in the fatherland liberation war was a great event which added a brilliant chapter to the history of our fatherland. The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: The victory achieved by our people in the Korean war was achieved by a revolutionary people against an imperialist reactionary force, and was won by a revolutionary army against an imperialist aggressive force.

The great victory achieved by the Korean people in the fatherland liberation war was a victory of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song's immortal chuche idea and his chuche-type military idea and was a brilliant fruition of the great leader's wise leadership and his unique military art. With profound wisdom and scientific insight, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song set forth a profound military, strategic policy, invented flexible, unique tactics at every stage of the war and wisely led the entire party, army and all the people in implementing this policy and these tactics.

By defeating the U.S. imperialist aggressors under the tested leadership of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song, a military strategist and a victorious iron-willed commander, our people and the People's Army protected their revolutionary gains, defended the fatherland's independence and the dignity of the people and demonstrated the revolutionary spirit of *chuche* Korea to the world. By winning victory in the fatherland liberation war, our people smashed for the first time in history the myth on the greatness of the U.S. imperialists, paved the way toward making the U.S. imperialists tread the road of decline, encouraged the anti-imperialist and national liberation struggle of the world's oppressed people and greatly contributed to the cause of peace in Asia and the world.

Twenty-nine years have passed since the cease-fire in Korea. During this period, our people, firmly united around the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the glorious party center and displaying the fighting spirit of self-reliance, have built an independent, self-reliant and powerful socialist country capable of self-defense in a land where everything was destroyed and reduced to ashes. They have steadily struggled to end the tragedy of national division. It is well known that, to convert the armistice into a durable peace and achieve the country's independent and peaceful reunification, we have set forth many policies and proposals, such as the three principles and five policies for the fatherland's reunification, the proposal for replacing the armistice agreement with a peace agreement and that for founding the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo [DCRK], and have made every possible sincere effort to implement these policies and proposals.

However, the desire of our people for reunification has not been fulfilled. A grave obstacle blocks the future path of the fatherland's reunification. This is totally because of the obstructionist maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists who do not want Korea's reunification. Instead of learning a lesson from the defeat they suffered in the Korean war and withdrawing, the U.S. imperialists, continuously sitting astride South Korea without abandoning their wild aggressive desire for Korea, have executed their policies for colonial control and war. Coming up with a policy for two Koreas, they have hindered the reunification of our country.

Declaring that the Korean Peninsula is a vital area as far as U.S. interests are concerned, present U.S. ruling circles have increased their aggressive military capabilities in South Korea. By continuously shipping to South Korea various sophisticated lethal weapons and military equipment, the bellicose U.S. imperialist war maniacs have increased military capabilities there. They are trying to additionally deploy neutron bombs and theater nuclear missiles in South Korea where large quantities of nuclear weapons have already been deployed. While continuously supplying new weapons and equipment to the South Korean puppets and massing vast aggressive troops in the area around the Korean Peninsula, they have frantically staged military exercises against us.

Because of the U.S. imperialists' ceaseless maneuvers to increase military capabilities and their war commotions, South Korea has been converted into a dangerous source of war, tension has been heightened on the Korean Peninsula and a grave situation in which the powderkeg of war might explode at any moment has developed there.

The U.S. imperialists' policy for aggression and war represents a violent violation of the sovereignty of the Korean people and is a grave crime disturbing peace on the Korean Peninsula and hindering the reunification cause. While strengthening their policy for aggression and war in Korea, the U.S. imperialists have clamored about the nonexistent threat of southward invasion and the military supremacy of the North. They have invented this to conceal their maneuvers for a war of northward invasion and to justify their military occupation of South Korea and a military buildup. No matter what trick they may use, the U.S. imperialists cannot conceal their true color as an occupier and an aggressor. Nor can they avoid responsibility for the grave situation on the Korean Peninsula.

The U.S. imperialists' policy of interference in and aggression against Korea has become apparent. Using the fascist military elements in South Korea, they have maintained a most reactionary colonial rule there. The fascist Chon Tu-hwan dictatorial military regime is the product of the crisis of colonial rule in South Korea. This regime has been fabricated by the U.S. imperialists' bayonets. It is a most wicked colonial puppet regime master-minded by the U.S. imperialists. Although the U.S. imperialists have called South Korea an independent nation, they are the real rulers in South Korea who, seizing every genuine right, including the right of supreme military command, exercise influence over everything.

By making all sectors in South Korea, including the political, economic, cultural and military sectors, thoroughly serve their aggressive aim, the U.S. imperialists have converted South Korea into their colony and military base. The regime there is a dirty tool designed to execute the U.S. imperialists' policy for colonial control and war. It was none other than the U.S. imperialists who masterminded the barbarous mass slaughter committed in Kwangju by traitor Chon Tu-hwan, a human butcher. It is none other than the U.S. imperialists -- the ringleaders who have cruelly suppressed democrats including Kim Tae-chung -- who have thwarted the struggle of the people to achieve the democratization of society and the fatherland's reunification.

Instigated and masterminded by the U.S. imperialists, traitor Chon Tu-hwan, infamously asking alms of the Japanese reactionary forces, has sold out the dignity and interest of our people and has fanned enmity among the people and heightened tension by increasing military capabilities and kicking up anticommunist war rackets.

All these facts clearly show that the U.S. imperialists' occupation of South Korea and their policy of aggression are basic factors violating the national sovereignty of the South Korean people, the constant source of disturbance in our country portending the danger of war and the largest obstacle to the fatherland's independent reunification.

Without removing the U.S. imperialist aggressive forces from South Korea, we cannot eliminate the danger of war from Korea, nor can we achieve the democratization of South Korean society, the cause of the people for independence and the country's reunification. This is the result and lesson the North and South Korean people have gained in their bloody struggle over the past 37 years to achieve the fatherland's reunification, independence and democracy.

What attitude one assumes toward the U.S. imperialist aggressors occupying South Korea constitutes a basic yardstick determining whether he desires the fatherland's reunification. By rising as one in the struggle to force the U.S. imperialist aggressive forces to withdraw from South Korea, all Koreans who desire the fatherland's reunification and who are concerned over the destiny of the country and the people should expedite the fatherland's independent and peaceful reunification.

Today the spirit of the anti-U.S. struggle has rapidly increased among the South Korean people of all walks of life, youths and students whose dignity and sovereignty have been trampled underfoot under the colonial rule by the U.S. imperialists and who have suffered all forms of humiliation and maltreatment. They have resolutely risen in the righteous, nation-saving anti-U.S. struggle to banish the U.S. imperialists -- the ringleaders of fascism and division and the source of national misfortune and disasters -- and restore the lost sovereignty of the people. The anti-U.S. struggle, which has been waged throughout South Korea, including Seoul and Chunchon, impelled by the arson at the U.S. cultural center in Pusan in March this year, is the eruption of the pent-up rancor and resentment of the South Korean people against the U.S. imperialists' colonial rule. This struggle reflects their firm patriotic will to banish the U.S. imperialist aggressors from the fatherland and restore the dignity and sovereignty of the people. The will of the Korean people to repel foreign aggression and interference and build a reunified, dignified independent country is firm.

The U.S. imperialists should correctly view the firm will of the Korean people who value the dignity and sovereignty of the people more dearly than their lives, abandon their anachronistic policy for occupying South Korea, stop maneuvers to fabricate two Koreas and withdraw from South Korea at the earliest possible date in accordance with the UN resolution, taking along all aggressive troops including nuclear weapons. The U.S. imperialists should also stop criminal maneuvers to instigate traitor Chon Tu-hwan to follow the course of division, fascism and war and take their hands of interference off Korea.

To thwart the U.S. imperialists' maneuvers for aggression and interference, we should eliminate the South Korean puppets who, by turning South Korea into a colonial military base of the U.S. imperialists, have sacrificed the country to foreign forces. The Chon Tu-hwan ring should act discreetly and step down from power in accord with the demand of the people. If it continues to tread the road of fascism, division and war, while treacherously relying on foreign forces by running counter to the desire of the people, they will only expedite their downfall.

The lost sovereignty of the people can only be regained through struggle. The situation in South Korea in which the sovereignty of the people has been trampled underfoot and in which the dark cloud of a new war and perpetual division is hanging low urges all the people to rise under the banner of grand national unity and more vigorously wage the nation-saving anti-U.S. struggle. By firmly uniting under an anti-U.S. banner for independence to smash the U.S. imperialists' maneuvers for aggression and interference and to reunify the divided fatherland, all Korean compatriots in the North and South should rise as one in the struggle to achieve national sovereignty on a national scale.

Sovereignty is the lifeline of the country and the people. With sovereignty, we can protect the honor and dignity of the people. Those people who do not possess sovereignty cannot achieve true independence and prosperity.

The proposal for founding the DCRK set forth by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song at the historic Sixth KWP Congress is a most rational and practical reunification proposal which delineates a correct way to found a reunified country in line with the desire of the people and to achieve the sovereignty of the people on a national scale.

If the U.S. imperialist aggressive forces withdraw from South Korea and end their interference in the internal affairs of our country, our people will readily and independently found an independent and peace-loving confederal country and achieve the historic cause of the fatherland's reunification.

All Korean people by rallying around the great national reunification front under the banner of anti-U.S. struggle for independence, will see to it that the U.S. imperialist troops of aggression withdraw from South Korea and that the historic cause of national reunification is achieved by realizing the proposal for the establishment of the DCRK.

To crush the U.S. imperialists' policy of aggression and war and hasten the fatherland's independent and peaceful reunification, we should carry out socialist construction more superbly in the northern half of the republic.

All party members and working people, upholding the grandiose programs put forth by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song at the Sixth KWP Congress and the militant tasks put forth in his historic policy speech, should accelerate the cause of imbuing society with the *chuche* idea under the loftily raised banner of three revolutions of ideology, technology and culture. Thus, by strengthening our revolutionary forces politically, economically and militarily, we should be fully prepared to defend the revolutionary gains and to crush the enemy's acts of aggression and provocation in a timely manner.

Our people, who are struggling to achieve the just cause of national reunification under the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and following the guidance of the glorious party center will certainly triumph.

CPRF DEMANDS END TO PUSAN ARSON TRIAL

SK230433 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2200 GMT 22 Jul 82

[22 July statement issued by the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland]

[Text] Today, South Korea has been plagued by a great fascist rampage through which treacheries strangle patriotism and injustice challenges justice. As is already known, the fascist Chon Tu-hwan military clique, a group of the U.S. imperialists' dirty stooges, after staging a murderous trial of those who were involved in the arson at the U.S. cultural center in Pusan in accordance with directives from its masters, are frantically running amok to severely punish the arsonists. According to very limited materials leaked despite the stern press censorship, the Chon Tu-hwan ring held a conference prior to the trials to instruct the judicial authorities to pass a death sentence on Mun Pu-sik, Kim Hyon-chang and Choe Ki-sik. Even the court-appointed lawyers expect them to be sentenced to death.

Deeply concerned over the grave threat to those involved in the arson at the U.S. cultural center in Pusan, because of the vicious, wicked scheme conceived by the U.S. imperialist masters and their stooges and regarding the plot to execute them as an intolerable crime designed to strangle anti-U.S. sentiment and independence being promoted in South Korea, and designed to maintain the tottering colonial military rule there, the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland [CPRF] resolutely denounces this plot.

Sixteen students and figures from various social sectors, who have been forcefully subjected to unjust trials at a murderous court for over a month, are patriots who have carried out righteous activities to achieve the dignity and sovereignty of the people and who only desire to oppose the United States and save the country.

On 18 March this year, they set fire to the cursed U.S. cultural center nestling in Pusan and scattered anti-U.S. handbills reading "U.S. forces must withdraw," and "We denounce U.S. neocolonialism," thereby resolutely opposing the U.S. imperialists' colonial rule. This courageous act of resolutely rising to break the iron shackles of tyranny was the eruption of pent-up rancor and resentment against the U.S. imperialist aggressors who, occupying South Korea for 37 years and posing as masters, have imposed immeasurable misfortune and disasters on the people. It was a righteous, patriotic struggle to regain the lost sovereignty of the people and achieve democracy and the country's peaceful reunification.

Reflecting the unanimous desire of the people refusing to live as colonial slaves, their righteous anti-U.S. struggle against the aggressors and the traitors to oppose foreign domination and control won sympathy for the people at home and abroad. The flames of the anti-U.S. struggle, which have been ablaze throughout South Korea, including Seoul and Chunchon following those lit in Pusan, clearly show this.

Through meetings and demonstrations and by issuing statements, religious figures in various foreign countries, including Japan, together with the South Korean people of all walks of life, have positively supported the anti-U.S. struggle of those involved in the arson at the U.S. cultural center in Pusan, have denounced the fascist clique for arresting the arsonists and for staging illegal trials and have strongly demanded the release of those detainees. At the murderous court, the detained anti-U.S. fighters have denied the content of the unjust indictment and claimed that their struggle was just and that they are not guilty.

Nevertheless, while supporting the crimes committed by the U.S. imperialist aggressors who, trespassing in another's country uninvited, have behaved outrageously and tyrannically, the Chon Tu-hwan ring has indicted the patriotic people for their sacred struggle to achieve independence, democracy and reunification. This shows that the rascals are faithful colonial servants and toadyist traitors of the century.

The South Korean puppet clique has outrageously committed a barbarous act of suppressing the people in accordance with the scenario prepared by the U.S. imperialist masters. No sooner had the arson occurred than the U.S. imperialists called the bosses of the South Korean puppets to the U.S. Embassy in South Korea. The former strongly urged the latter to bear responsibility for the incident, make apologies, conduct a thorough search for the arsonists and severely punish them. After calling the puppet foreign minister to Washington some time ago, they issued a secret directive on the punishment of patriotic people who have risen in the anti-U.S. struggle.

By maneuvering to cruelly execute the people who have risen in the righteous anti-U.S. struggle, the U.S. imperialists and their stooges are attempting to thwart the spirit of the daily increasing anti-U.S. struggle in South Korea, block the patriotic advance of the people and overcome the crisis of their colonial rule. However, this is a miscalculation. The strength of the people who desire independence is stronger than bayonets. No force can check the trend for independence that has surged through South Korea. Before being banished by the anti-U.S. struggle of the indignant South Korean people, the U.S. imperialists should abandon their foolish, absurd desire for holding onto South Korea forever as a colony and return to their den, taking along their aggressive troops and all lethal weapons, including nuclear weapons.

The Chon Tu-hwan ring should stop its treacherous attempt to win favor from the U.S. imperialists by executing patriotic people, by turning its back on its fellow countrymen and by colluding with foreign forces and end its effort to maintain its dirty remaining life with foreign patronage. It should stop the unjust game of trials against those who have been involved in the arson at the U.S. cultural center and should unconditionally release all of them. If the Chon Tu-hwan ring continues to tread the path of executing the patriotic people who have risen in the anti-U.S. struggle, it will not be able to avoid a more miserable fate than that suffered by the previous dictators who departed this life while engaged in the treachery of relying on foreign forces.

We firmly believe that the South Korean people of all walks of life will more vigorously struggle to banish the U.S. imperialist aggressors from our sacred fatherland, to end their colonial rule and to found a reunified, prosperous and independent country -- a new world of independence free from foreign forces and traitors.

KWP GREETES JAPANESE COMMUNIST PARTY CONGRESS

SK270034 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2204 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Pyongyang, July 27 (KCNA) -- The Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea on July 26 sent a message to the Central Committee of the Japan Communist Party in congratulation of the 16th Congress of the party. The message reads:

Dear comrades, the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea hails the 16th Congress of the Japan Communist Party and, through it, extends friendly greetings to the entire members of your party. Believing that the friendly relations established between our two parties will develop favorably, we wish your congress success in its work.

NODONG SINMUN HITS JAPAN'S DISTORTION OF HISTORY

SK250526 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2255 GMT 24 Jul 82

[NODONG SINMUN 25 July commentary: "For What Purpose Are They Distorting History?"]

[Text] According to news reports, the Japanese Ministry of Education has approved textbooks with revised portions related to the past Japanese imperialist aggression of our country.

What we cannot overlook in the textbooks for the Japanese elementary and middle school students approved by the Japanese Ministry of Education is the fact that our people's 1 March uprising was described as a riot, the forced draft as voluntary and the use of Japanese along with the Korean language, which is completely contrary to the facts. This ignominious distortion of history is an intolerable insult to our people and a wily trick designed to embellish the Japanese imperialist aggression against Korea.

Our people cannot suppress their fury over the unjust action by the Japanese authorities. History is an objective record of past facts. This being the case, nobody should try to exaggerate or minimize historical facts arbitrarily, nor fabricate or obliterate them. It is a stark historical fact which nobody can deny that our people's 1 March movement was a sacred and patriotic uprising waged to regain national independence. Numerous publications have clearly recorded this already. By describing it as a riot, however, the Japanese persons in authority are trying to make our people's 1 March uprising appear to be a riot by mobsters but not the inevitable result of the Japanese imperialists' colonial rule of our country. Also, this is a crafty stratagem designed to rationalize the Japanese imperialists' aggression in Korea and to expunge the patriotic struggle of our people who resisted the aggression.

The same is true of the draft problem. With a vast number of armed forces mobilized in the Pacific war, the Japanese imperialists forcibly drafted at gunpoint numerous youths of our country to resupply the short labor force. Is there any need to recall how those drafted youths were forced to suffer miserably, to fall and die in the Japanese imperialists' military bases, coal and other mines, and munitions plants and construction sites?

Now the Japanese persons in authority, by advertising such forced draft as voluntary action on the part of our people, are trying to conceal the Japanese imperialists' murderous character and to make it appear to have been supported by someone.

The same kind of stratagem by the Japanese persons in authority is to be seen in their description of the use of the Japanese language. They described Japanese as being used along with the Korean language. Under the claim that Korea and Japan are of similar origin and therefore should be integrated, the Japanese imperialists forcibly practiced a policy of assimilation, forced the use of Japanese on the Koreans and employed every effort possible to block the use of our language and letters. However, they failed to rob our people of our language and letters despite the indescribable whippings and conciliatory efforts. Even under the murderous suppression of the Japanese imperialists, our people defended our superior language and letters and continued to use them. The truth is that by alleging that the Japanese language was commonly used, they are trying to conceal their crimes committed under their policy of obliterating the Korean language and forcing the use of Japanese.

It is quite intolerable that the Japanese persons in authority are trying to arbitrarily distort stark historical facts widely accepted by the world.

The fact that the Japanese authorities are trying to teach the young generations distorted history by revising textbooks stems from their intent to indoctrinate them with the militarist thought of invasion by embellishing the Japanese imperialists' aggressive policy. Through this, the Japanese persons in authority are trying to rationalize their touted theory that South Korea and Japan are in the same boat. They also are preparing ideologically to achieve their ambition of launching another invasion of South Korea and their old dream of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere. The fact that they are trying to distort the history of their aggression against China and other Northeast Asian countries, not to mention the one related to our country, is proof of such intent.

History does not repeat itself, and it should not repeat itself. The distortion of history by Japanese persons in authority shows that their deeply ingrained militarist aggressiveness has not changed and that it is being revived in a new form.

If the Japanese authorities are to avoid the path of their predecessors and be exonerated for their past crimes, they should not counterfeit history but correctly describe it so their people can draw a lesson from it.

CHONG CHUN-KI AT MEETING MARKING CUBAN ANNIVERSARY

SK270444 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0340 GMT 27 Jul 82

[Text] Pyongyang, July 27 (KCNA) -- A meeting commemorating the 29th anniversary of the July 26 armed uprising of the Cuban people was held Monday at the Central Workers House. Present there were Vice-Premier Chong Chun-ki and personages concerned and working people in the city.

Chong Sung-nam, minister of external economic affairs and chairman of the Korea-Cuba Solidarity Committee, spoke first at the meeting.

Noting that the Cuban revolutionaries in a bold operation raided the Moncada Barracks, a military stronghold of the Batista dictatorial regime, on July 26, 1953, 29 years ago, he said: This was the first torch of the armed struggle which sowed seeds of struggle among the Cuban people who had been oppressed and maltreated under the tyranny of the U.S. imperialists and the Batista dictatorial regime, their tool; this was an important event which brought about a new turn in the history of the Cuban people.

The speaker said that after the victory of the revolution on January 1, 1959, the Cuban people achieved great successes in the socialist revolution and construction under the leadership of the Cuban Communist Party headed by Comrade Fidel Castro.

Our people, he noted, highly appreciate the courageous Cuban people for defending the gains of revolution and successfully building socialism, pushing aside the imperialists' subversive machinations and sabotage under the very nose of the United States. Our people scathingly denounce the U.S. imperialists' aggressive moves and economic blockade policy against the Cuban people and express firm solidarity with the Cuban people in their just struggle for driving the U.S. troops out of Guantanamo, he said.

The Korean people, he stressed, who value friendship with the Cuban people, will further consolidate and develop friendship and solidarity between the peoples of the two countries through the common struggle against imperialism and for the victory of the socialist cause in the future, too.

Ambassador Wilfredo Rodriguez Cardenas spoke next at the meeting. He said that the Korean people have a long history of patriotic, revolutionary and heroic struggle against colonialism and imperialism and have achieved splendid successes in the struggle for building a new society under the leadership of Comrade Kim Il-song.

Noting that the Cuban people regard the staunch struggle of the Korean people for national reunification as their own, the ambassador strongly denounced the "two Koreas" plot of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges for perpetuating the division of Korea.

The Cuban people, he said, demand an immediate withdrawal of the U.S. imperialist aggression troops from South Korea and support the struggle of the South Korean people for the democratisation of the South Korean society. He expressed militant solidarity of the Cuban people with the Korean people's just cause.

NODONG SINMUN OBSERVES CUBAN NATIONAL DAY

SK261545 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1508 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Pyongyang, July 26 (KCNA) -- NODONG SINMUN today dedicates a signed article to the 29th anniversary of the storming of the Moncada Barracks by Cuban revolutionaries.

The article says the Korean people extend warm congratulations and greetings to the fraternal Cuban people on this anniversary. It goes on:

The storming of the Moncada Barracks was a historic event of great significance in the national liberation struggle of the Cuban people against U.S. imperialism and its lackey, the Batista dictatorial regime, and for freedom and liberation. Following the attack, the Cuban revolutionaries headed by Comrade Fidel Castro dealt telling blows at the enemy in different parts and finally overthrew the Batista dictatorial regime and achieved the victory of the Cuban revolution on January 1, 1959.

Pointing out that since the victory of the revolution, the fraternal Cuban people under the guidance of the Communist Party of Cuba led by Comrade Fidel Castro have recorded great successes in the revolution and construction, frustrating repeated subversive activities and sabotages of U.S. imperialism and its stooges, the article continues:

The Korean people sincerely rejoice as over their own over the successes made by the brotherly Cuban people in the revolution and construction.

The friendly and cooperative relations between the peoples of Korea and Cuba are growing stronger and developing with each passing day.

The Korean people denounce the U.S. imperialist manoeuvres of aggression and economic blockade against the Cuban people and express firm solidarity with them in the just struggle to force U.S. troops to withdraw from Guantanamo.

Convinced that the friendly and cooperative relations with the fraternal Cuban people will develop and strengthen in the common struggle against imperialism and for socialism, the Korean people wish them great success in the building of socialism.

GOVERNMENT DELEGATION RETURNS FROM NICARAGUA

SK270041 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2211 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Pyongyang, July 27 (KCNA) -- The party and government delegation of our country headed by Chae Hui-chong, minister of labour administration, who is alternate member of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea, returned home by air on July 26 after attending the celebrations of the third anniversary of the victory of the Nicaraguan revolution. It was met at the airport by Chairman of the Education Commission Choe Tae-pok, Cuban Ambassador to Korea Wilfredo Rodriguez Cardenas, and an official of the Soviet Embassy in Pyongyang.

HO TAM MEETS NEW PAKISTANI AMBASSADOR

SK250906 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0839 GMT 25 Jul 82

[Text] Pyongyang, July 25 (KCNA) -- Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Ho Tam on July 24 met and had a talk with Sultan Muhammad Dutta, newly-appointed ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to our country, who paid a courtesy call on him. Present on the occasion were a personage concerned and Noorullah Khan, charge d'affaires ad interim of the Pakistani Embassy in Pyongyang.

NODONG SINMUN DISCUSSES ESSENCE OF POLITICS

SK222347 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2227 GMT 21 Jul 82

[Excerpt] Pyongyang, July 21 (KCNA) -- The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song gave a new theoretical answer to politics in his historic policy speech "Tasks of the People's Government in Modelling the Whole of Society on the Chuche Idea." In this connection NODONG SINMUN today carries an article headlined "Politics Is Social Function To Organize and Direct People's Activities in a Coordinated Way."

The article says: What is most important in the new theory of politics propounded by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song with his originality is that he clearly formulated the essence of politics. As the great leader teaches us, politics is a social function to organize and direct people's activities in a coordinated way in keeping with common class or social interests. This is a new answer to what politics means.

What is new in the elucidation of the essence of politics is that it was comprehensively formulated. This means that the question of politics is viewed in combination with the common social interests, along with class interests, and politics is regarded as one organizing and directing people's activities.

By this newly formulated essence of politics, the fundamental principle of maintenance and development of society has been clarified for the first time in history and it has been expounded that politics is a social function of fundamental significance in social development.

Basing himself on the scientific exposition of the essence of politics, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song clearly propounded its necessity. Politics is an essential requisite, above all, to the collective lives and joint activities of the people. It is also essential requisite to the maintenance and development of society.

An important idea in the theory of politics propounded by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song is that politics exists in any society. This analysis signifies a new discovery in the exposition of the appearance of the future communist society and the strategic and tactical policies for advancing toward it. Politics will exist even in the society where there would be no more class distinctions with the whole of it working-classed. This is a new exposition of the question of politics.

Another important point in the chuche-based exposition of politics is the idea that only when the popular masses become the master of politics, can they become the master of society.

The article stresses: The new theory of politics propounded by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song is evolved with man as the central factor, proceeding from the chuche idea. The great leader defined and analyzed all problems from the essence of politics to its necessity and significance with man as the central factor. Such chuche-based theory of politics is truth substantiated by the long history of social development. Herein lies the validity and vitality of the chuche-based theory of politics.

The significance of the chuche-based theory of politics propounded by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song lies in that it indicates a scientific way for powerfully promoting social development and help radically enhance the function and role of the political organizations, declares the article.

CHON REITERATES CALL FOR ANTICORRUPTION EFFORT

SK270312 Seoul YONHAP in English 0304 GMT 27 Jul 82

[Text] Seoul, July 27 (YONHAP) -- President Chon Tu-hwan Tuesday reiterated his call for an end to social irregularities, including the abuse of power, fraud and violence.

In an address to a meeting of representatives of government regulatory agencies, Chon instructed the officials to weed out improprieties and establish firm societal discipline. "There has been tangible progress in our endeavor to construct a just society, a major objective of the Fifth Republic," said the president, who embarked on his political career with pledges to build a "democratic society where justice will prevail."

"However, there are still those in some quarters of our society who misuse their influential connections to their advantage, and violence, fraud and theft are on the rise again." Chon said strong measures were needed to address such improprieties and to insure security in the citizens' everyday life.

Acting on the presidential instruction, participants in Tuesday's meeting decided to encourage both civil servants and private citizens to report cases involving influence-peddling by high officials. They also agreed to reinforce undercover activities to eliminate fraudulent activities and unfounded rumors, and to conduct a massive crackdown on violent criminals and hoodlums at vacation resorts.

NORTH'S VIOLATIONS OF ARMISTICE AGREEMENT INCREASE

SK270116 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 27 Jul 82 p 8

[Text] Violations of the armistice agreement by the North Korean communists increased sharply during the first half of this year, it was learned yesterday.

According to statistics compiled by the Defense Ministry on the occasion of the 29th anniversary of the signing of the armistice agreement today, North Korea violated the agreement 4,108 times during the January-June period. This figure was far greater than 3,437 violations committed by the North during all of 1981.

Major violations of the agreement by the northern soldiers include the firing of automatic weapons at defense positions of the Republic of Korea, the dispatching of armed agents into the south, and the abduction of a fishing vessel and fishermen on the high seas.

NORTH REPORTED SHORT OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE

SK250414 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 25 Jul 82 p 1

[Text] Tokyo (YONHAP) -- The foreign exchange situation of North Korea has deteriorated as Pyongyang has requested that Japan accept a delayed payment of a six billion yen debt. The date of the payment expired at the end of June.

According to the TONGIL ILBO (UNIFICATION DAILY) published here, the foreign exchange holdings of North Korea were at rock bottom as Pyongyang appears to have spent an enormous sum of money to celebrate the birthday of its chieftain Kim Il-song on April 15.

TONG-A ILBO HITS U.S. SANCTIONS AGAINST USSR

SK261300 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 26 Jul 82 p 1

[From the column "Gibberish"]

[Excerpts] Recent U.S. policy toward the Soviet Union can be termed a combination of the carrot and stick. While brandishing the stick in strengthening economic sanctions against Soviet intervention in Poland's domestic affairs, putting an end to Western countries' exports of pipeline equipment to the Soviet Union and pressuring Japan to halt its Sakhalin oil and

natural gas drilling project, the United States is offering the carrot of negotiations for grain exports at the Geneva conference for arms reductions.

What matters is that by using the stick, the United States not only hurts the Soviet Union but also its Western allies. This brings to mind Napoleon, who in 1806, following his conquest of the European continent, issued a royal decree called the Berlin royal decree to bring Great Britain to its knees. As a result, chaos erupted in Europe and Napoleon endured strong opposition.

Essentially, today, when the world is polarized, sanctions are unlikely to have any effects. The Carter administration imposed sanctions on grain exports to the Soviet Union, but Argentina -- one of the U.S. allies -- continued to export grain to the Soviet Union. The economic sanctions imposed against Cuba -- a country not far from the United States -- failed.

Efforts to catch rats should not end up breaking jars.

HANGUK ILBO SAYS JAPANESE DIPLOMACY 'DUPLICITOUS'

SK261129 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 25 Jul 82 p 2

[Article by reporter Yi Chae-mu: "Duplicity of Japanese Diplomacy"]

[Text] A certain foreign ambassador, who worked in Japan for a long time, once said: In reviewing Japanese diplomacy, in particular its way of negotiating with foreign countries, one rarely observes genuine principles, good faith or courtesy. Only when it has had a weak point has it been faithful to principles. This shows that Japanese diplomacy hides duplicity and falsity with smiles and pretentious kindness.

Japan has seldom discussed and reached agreement on an issue in a sincere manner even with friendly nations. It is true that, while running amok in seeking profits like a business firm, Japan has shown a lukewarm attitude or stinginess toward negotiations it had to participate in.

The best example is the trade war between the United States and Japan. A few years ago, when public opinion in the United States was critical of the mass entry of Japanese cars into the United States and the serious trade deficit between the two countries, Japan gave the impression that it would immediately resolve the problem by sending a special envoy and a survey team. However, it has only procrastinated, rectifying nothing.

We are disappointed that such duplicity in Japanese diplomacy has again been unveiled in the course of negotiating the economic cooperation issue. The economic cooperation issue raised by the Korean request for \$6 billion in loans has been pending for almost a year and 4 months due to Japanese insincerity, a haughty attitude and ignorance about the issue. After twists and turns, an atmosphere for solving economic cooperation issue was apparently created because of favorable Japanese reaction to Foreign Minister Yi Pom-sok's visit to Japan, the Korean side's reduction of the total amount of loans and its suggestion of new conditions for loans and of new interest terms. Crying that the time had come when the economic cooperation issue could be solved, Japan babbled that it would show sincerity in its counterproposal. However, the Japanese counterproposal, conveyed by its Councillor Koto on 23 July, struck dumb the concerned Foreign Ministry officials and even made them indignant.

Maintaining the framework of Japan's original proposal -- \$1.5 billion in overseas development assistance [ODA] loans and \$2.5 billion in Japanese Export-Import Bank loans -- which was conveyed at the end of last April by the Assistant Minister Yanagiya, the Japanese side only slightly altered the proposal's contents by allowing domestic capital to be appropriated for the loans within the limits of 30 percent of ODA loans and 15 percent of Export-Import Bank loans amounting to \$825 million and by offering commodity loans in bank loans from part of the Export-Import Bank fund. This insincere attitude makes us wonder if the Japanese side has any intention of negotiating the issue or if it wants the Korean side to give up the request.

When Foreign Minister Yi Pom-sok visited Japan, influential people in Japanese political circles promised to make their best efforts on the issue, praising Minister Yi's visit as courageous and Minister Yi as sensible. After his return home Minister Yi seemed to expect a favorable reply from Japan, but when the concerned individuals received the reply, they were indignant over betrayal.

Not even mentioning the contents of the reply, Japan showed rudeness by violating custom in the way the reply was conveyed. Japan had sent its ambassador in Korea when the economic cooperation issue was involved. This time, however, it sent a Japanese councillor to the Korean Foreign Ministry even though it was the Japanese reply to our counterproposal. Furthermore, the Japanese side added the appeals of its ministries to the reply by making the director of the Asian Bureau of the Japanese Foreign Affairs Ministry, who was visiting Korea to participate in a Korea-Japan narcotics meeting, accompany its councillor.

The Korean Foreign Ministry had problems shaping its attitude for receiving the reply. Since the consultation was working level, the Foreign Ministry should reflect on its poor preparations for countering the bearing of the reply by a councillor-level diplomat. When they were asked for their comment on the economic cooperation issue, they reacted coolly, unlike the past, replying that they had no comment.

If the Japanese persist in the same approach to the issue they are using at this moment, one year and 4 months after the issue was raised, they will not avoid criticism that it is nothing but the business-like approach of a small-minded person.

We know that the traditional diplomatic approach of Japan is to sound out an opposite side with a tantalizing amount of concession, which may be beneficial in negotiations, but will hurt the opposite side's heart. Since economic cooperation is not charity, but a loan, our side should deal with this issue in a resolute manner.

FURTHER REACTION TO JAPANESE TEXTBOOK ISSUE

Government Countermeasures

SK270126 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 27 Jul 82 p 1

[Text] The government is studying various measures against the distortion of historical facts in newly authorized Japanese high school history textbooks concerning the Japanese invasion and annexation of Korea and "controversial remarks" by two Japanese ministers justifying the distortion.

Under this measure, acting Prime Minister Kim Sang-hyop received briefings from relevant officials and discussed appropriate countermeasures. Officials attending the Capitol meeting were Minister of Foreign Affairs Yi Pom-sok, Minister of Education Yi Kyu-ho and Vice Minister of Culture and Information Ho Mun-to. Details of the meeting were not known. The acting premier and relevant ministers are expected to further discuss the matter during the regular cabinet meeting today.

According to reports from Tokyo, Yukiyasu Matsuno, state minister in charge of national land, claimed Saturday that making issue of the new Japanese history textbooks by Korea is an "outright interference with Japanese internal affairs" and that it is wrong for Korean textbooks to describe the Japanese annexation of Korea as "an invasion by Japan." Japanese Ministry of Education Heiji Ogawa made similar remarks earlier in the week.

Meanwhile a high-ranking Foreign Ministry official disclosed the government is watching the Japanese Government's stance on the textbook issue "with great concern." Saying that the government has not taken any concrete measures yet, he criticized Matsuno's claim. The government, he said, has received reports from the Korean Embassy in Tokyo on the contents of the Japanese history textbooks and remarks made by Japanese officials on the issue. With the completion of analyzing them, he said, the government will take appropriate measures.

However, he made it clear that the government will not link the textbook issue to the ongoing negotiations over the Korean request for economic cooperation from Japan, saying they are separate issues. He added he does not regard it as proper to call in Japanese Amb. Toshikazu Maeda "at this stage" to lodge a protest to the Tokyo government.

Early in the day, the ministry delivered possible diplomatic measures concerning the contents of the Japanese history books at a senior officials' conference. First Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs Kong No-myong called at the ruling Democratic Justice Party to brief on the embassy reports concerning distorted historical facts and controversial remarks made by Japanese officials. Director General of Information and Cultural Affairs Kim Pyong-yon and Director General of Asian Affairs Choe Tong-chin visited the Democratic Korea Party and the Korean National Party respectively.

'Distorted' Facts Noted

SK270323 Seoul YONHAP in English 0310 GMT 27 Jul 82

[Excerpt] Seoul, July 27 (YONHAP) -- South Korean historians have classified the controversial historical facts which have allegedly been distorted in a new edition of a Japanese high school textbook amid heated criticism from Korean society. The alleged falsifications and senior Japanese officials' remarks in defense of them are now under close examination by the South Korean Government for possible diplomatic action.

The historians said the references to Japan's invasion and annexation of Korea, as well as its colonial rule over Korea from 1910 until 1945, were "distorted" in the new Japanese textbook.

They said the previous edition stated "Japan created a collision of its ship, 'Unyang-Ho' in 1875, and under the excuse of this incident, Japan forced Korea to open its ports." The new edition, however, says "the collision took place because of Korea's bombardment of the Japanese ship and the collision eventually made Korea open its ports."

In the old text, the Japanese annexation of Korea in 1910, following the "protectorate treaty" of 1905, was described as Japan "invaded" Korea, but in the new edition, the word "invaded" has been replaced by advanced." In addition, the Koreans' nationwide independence movement of March 1, 1919, previously described as "a resistance for independence," is now referred to as "a riot."

Regarding the Japanese colonial government's eight-year land survey which began in 1919, empowering the Japanese to assume ownership of virtually all land in Korea, the new edition has substituted the previous expression reading "the Japanese imperialists exploited lands of Koreans" with "the Koreans lost their right for land."

In the course of its invasion of China in 1937, the Japanese suppressed religious freedom in colonial Korea and required compulsory worship at Japanese Shinto shrines.

In the previous edition, this act was described as "Koreans were forced to worship at the Shinto shrines," but in the new version, this has been changed to "Koreans were encouraged to worship at Shinto shrines."

In 1938, the Japanese colonial government banned the teaching of the Korean language, and in 1941, the curriculum of Japanese schools was imposed on Korean schools. By 1943, the Korean language was not taught in primary schools at all. The textbook in question has rephrased the earlier version of "the use of the Korean language was banned and the use of the Japanese language was forced" with "the Korean and Japanese languages were used simultaneously." During the same period, the Japanese forced Koreans to adopt Japanese names. The new text has replaced the word "forced" with "encouraged."

According to the older edition, many Koreans were "forcibly drafted" into the Japanese army or work force, including young women for the "entertainment" of Japanese soldiers, particularly during World War II. In the new school book, the expression "forcibly drafted" has been changed to "mobilized." Historians said the draft of Korean laborers began in 1939, and statistics up to Aug. 15, 1945, showed that 4,146,098 were assigned in Korea and 1,259,933 in Japan. Most Korean workers were put into coal mines, and others were scattered throughout South Pacific islands, Southeast Asia and Sakhalin, an area now under Soviet control, where some of them remain to this day.

KOREA HERALD Editorial

SK250426 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 25 Jul 82 p 4

[Editorial: "Japan's View of History"]

[Text] The Japanese attempt to doctor the critical references in school textbooks to the country's prewar militarist policy toward its Asian neighbors, as well as its conduct of war, is a matter of serious concern -- not only for the parties directly affected. As the projected changes focus on the most critical issues on the seamy side of the imperialist Japan, they amount to a gross falsification of history.

Korea and China are two immediate and outright victims of the Tokyo government's attempt to rewrite history. But consequences of the textbook changes will be much broader and far-reaching, because what truly matters is the notion behind the alteration rather than the change itself.

The new textbooks will hoodwink the growing generation in Japan on the mistakes their preceding generation committed in foreign relations. The March 1, 1919 independence movement of Korea is described as a "riot" which the Japanese authorities quelled by using force. Japan's invasion of China in the 1930's was an "advance." The Japanese Education Ministry officials responsible for the textbook compilation seem to theorize that the Japanese annexation of Korea in 1910 was carried out under "agreement." They would reason therefore that the subsequent Japanese administration in Korea is not to be viewed as a forcible imposition. What a distortion of facts!

As a rule, few people willingly make public their mistakes. But when it comes to the question of historical facts and responsibility, one's like or dislike has -- and should be given -- little sway as long as humanity is determined to do better by learning lessons from history. The unfortunate period in past Korea-Japan relations has to be given due assessment by both sides in order to orient their future ties in a mutually desirable direction. As a matter of fact, the normalization of relations between the two countries in the mid-1960's was based on such a view of history.

What underlies the modification of historical facts is quite worrisome because it seems to reflect the thought of responsible officials of the Japanese Government.

What is baffling, meantime, is the report that the education minister turned a cold shoulder to protests against the textbook change as an act of intervening in Japan's internal affairs. We hope either that he was misquoted or, at worst, that his view is not shared by a majority of Japanese.

The Japanese authorities will do well to think about effects of the change of historical facts on the future relations between Korea and Japan to be shaped by today's young generation. Amicable cooperation will be hard to expect between one that is either misled about or ignorant of its past disgrace and the other that is becoming forgiving, if not forgetful, of the former's past. The changes of textbooks is even suggestive of a change of course in postwar Japan. Why Japan has come to rewrite the textbooks after all those reflective postwar years cannot but pose an ominous question to its neighbor countries.

BUDGET DEFICITS MAY DELAY MAJOR PROJECTS

SK250431 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 25 Jul 82 p 1

[Text] Government budget squeezes may take a heavy toll in large-scale national projects including the construction of nuclear power plants, multipurpose dams and the subway network in the metropolitan Seoul next year. Officials at the Economic Planning Board [EPB] said yesterday that the budget deficits are feared to be widened next year as revenues are slow to come, putting strains on the scale of fiscal 1983 national budget.

According to the officials, the government may further delay the start of the construction of nuclear power plants Nos. 11 and 12 to 1984 and scrap the plan to establish a 19.8-billion-won special teacher's college because of shortages of funds. Originally, the state-operated Korea Electric Power Corp. (KEPCO) planned to select the foreign supplier of the atomic reactors of Nos. 11 and 12 nuclear power plants this year.

The liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminal project may also be affected by budget strains, said the officials, adding that the government is unlikely to channel substantial amounts of money into the multibillion won project next year. KEPCO, which is in charge of the project, nonetheless, is scheduled to pick the foreign supplier of major equipment to be used for the construction of the terminal next month. French and Japanese firms are favored to win the contract.

The fund for the construction of coal ports at Inchon and Mokpo may be slashed from 44 billion won to 20 billion won or so.

EPB officials also expected that the government may:

- Delay the construction of handball gyms in Anyang and Songnam cities which require a total outlay of 4 billion won.
- Scrap a large portion of Seoul's 45.6-billion won urban renewal projects.
- Reconsider the plan to invest 200 billion won in the state-run Korea Development Bank.

Officials of the EPB and the government party are reportedly at odds about the subway construction program in Seoul. Reports had it that the budget officials favor a sharp cut in the subway building budget while Democratic Justice Party policymakers are opposed to it.

PARTY, GOVERNMENT MESSAGE MARKS SRV WAR HEROES DAY

BK270227 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1446 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Phnom Penh, 26 Jul (SPK) -- The party and government of Kampuchea today sent a message to the families of Vietnamese fallen, disabled and wounded combatants on the occasion of the War Invalids and Heroes Day (27 July).

The People's Armed Forces of Vietnam, the message said, have been fulfilling their noble task of proletarian internationalism in our fatherland since the liberation of the Kampuchean people on 7 January 1979. The fraternal Vietnamese people have sent their best sons and daughters to fight shoulder to shoulder with the Kampuchean people against the common enemy, Beijing expansionsism, U.S. imperialism and other reactionaries in defense of national independence and for the reconstruction of a solid Kampuchea, contributing to the defense of peace in Indochina and southeast Asia. You have preserved the tradition of solidarity between our two nations which is flourishing more than ever.

The Kampuchean people will never forget these sublime honors, selflessness or sacrifices. We are indignant at the slanders and hostilities of the enemies of all stripes aimed at splitting the sacred militant solidarity of our two peoples. We would like to share weal and woe with the Vietnam Communist Party and the families of the combatants who died for the fatherland and follow these good examples, imbued with noble proletarian internationalism, of our Vietnamese comrades-in-arms.

Our party and people as a whole express their gratitude to the heroic combatants of Vietnam and inscribe their honors and contributions in our annals.

AAPSO MESSAGE TO HUN SEN SUPPORTS SRV PULLOUT

BK240924 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1429 GMT 23 Jul 82

[Text] Phnom Penh, 23 Jul (SPK) -- AAPSO completely supports the positive proposals of the sixth conference of the Kampuchean, Vietnamese and Lao foreign ministers and highly praises Vietnam's good will reflected in its decision to partially withdraw its troops from Kampuchea.

In a message recently sent to Hun Sen, minister of foreign affairs, the AAPSO Permanent Secretariat said that the proposal to convene an international conference on Southeast Asia will be a positive step forward for stability, security and peace in the region.

AAPSO believes that new conspiracies led by imperialism (?and reactionaries) in the formation of the so-called "tripartite coalition" pose the most serious dangers and are directed at destabilizing Kampuchea and restoring the Pol Pot genocidal regime. AAPSO reaffirms its firm solidarity with the People's Republic of Kampuchea and commits itself to mobilizing the Afro-Asian peoples' support for the Indochinese peoples' struggle in the construction and the defense of their countries and to promote regional peace.

INDUSTRY MINISTRY WELCOMES FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING

BK241146 [Editorial Report] Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian at 1300 GMT on 23 July carries a 22-minute report with portions recorded on a meeting organized by the Ministry of Industry in Phnom Penh on 23 July to welcome the sixth Kampuchea-Vietnam-Laos foreign ministers conference.

The announcer begins his report by noting: "Starting at 0730, more than 5,000 cadres, employees and workers of various factories in Phnom Penh unanimously organized a solemn meeting to welcome the sixth Kampuchea-Vietnam-Laos foreign ministers conference which was held in Ho Chi Minh City from 6-7 July 1982.

"Present in the presidium were Comrade Chan Ven, secretary general of the Council of State and chairman of the Kampuchea-Vietnam Friendship Association; Comrade Meas Samnang, ministry of industry; Comrade Min Khin, deputy secretary general of the KUFNCD National Council; and Comrade Mok Mareth, vice chairman of the Phnom Penh Municipal People's Revolutionary Committee."

After the playing of the national anthem, the announcer presents the recorded speech made by Comrade Meas Samnang. The minister of industry begins his speech by praising the brilliant successes scored by the Kampuchean revolution during the past more than 3 years after liberation from the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary-Khieu Samphan genocidal regime.

After describing various defeats of the Pol Pot clique in the country and its isolation on the international scene, Comrade Meas Samnang continues: "Faced with this hopeless impasse, the Beijing Chinese expansionists, the U.S. imperialists and other reactionaries forced Sihanouk, Son Sann and Khieu Samphan -- Khmer reactionaries and traitors to their nation and people -- to unite with each other to form the so-called Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea [CGDK] in order to maintain its seat at the United Nations. All the Kampuchean people are neither alarmed nor afraid of this so-called tripartite coalition government because they are well aware that it is really only a farce to hide the face of the genocidal clique."

He then states: "The Kampuchean revolution has a foreign policy of correctly implementing the stand of peaceful coexistence, particularly with various Southeast Asian countries. The People's Republic of Kampuchea has also the good will to maintain good relations with Thailand. This had been clearly emphasized in joint communiques of the past five foreign ministers conferences of the three countries -- Kampuchea, Vietnam and Laos. But the Bangkok powerholders have unrealistically and naively implemented a policy which follows in the wake of Beijing and Washington and rejected all reasonable solutions for the PRK.

"Recently, the sixth Vietnam-Laos-Kampuchea foreign ministers conference, which ended successfully on 7 July 1982 in Ho Chi Minh City, clearly presented the realistic and correct stand of good will of the three countries to peacefully solve various (?problems) and to restore peace in the Southeast Asian region. The sixth conference reiterated that the Vietnamese troops' presence in Kampuchea was not aimed at threatening Thai security, but was directed at fulfilling the internationalist proletarian duties to liberate the Kampuchean people from the genocidal danger.

"When there is a request from the Kampuchean people and if Kampuchea is not threatened by the enemy, the Vietnamese troops will be withdrawn to their country."

The industry minister finally praises all the proposals made by the foreign ministers conference as reasonable, just and realistic. He notes that the entire party, people and army are determined to strengthen their solidarity and unity under the leadership of the KPRP. The two banners of genuine patriotism and proletarian internationalist solidarity have to be upheld, and the strategic bonds of solidarity between Kampuchea, Vietnam and Laos must also be strengthened.

After Meas Samnang's 10-minute speech, the announcer says various representatives of workers in heavy, light, chemical, and food industries spoke at the meeting and expressed their determination to completely support the proposals made in the communique of the Kampuchea-Vietnam-Laos foreign ministers conference. They also categorically rejected the so-called CGDK.

The recorded speeches of a light industry workers' representative and a representative of the meeting are then presented.

The announcer says the ceremony concluded at 0900 "in a joyful and sincere atmosphere full of proletarian spirit."

DEFENSE MINISTRY AWARDS MEDAL TO SRV DIVISION

BK241434 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0400 GMT 23 Jul 82

[Text] On the afternoon of 20 July 1982, Brig Gen Ki Thoumphala, deputy chief of the Army Political Department, on behalf of the LPDR National Defense Ministry, bestowed the second-class medal of freedom on the neighborly Vietnamese construction volunteers' division which has worked to assist Laos. The award ceremony was formally held at the office of the rear construction organization of Xieng Khouang Province.

Attending the ceremony on the Lao side in addition to Brig Gen Ki Thoumphala were Brig Gen Padit Thiangtham, staff director of the National Defense Ministry; Khoun Chandeng, vice minister of foreign affairs; Singkapo Sikhotchounlamani, vice minister of communications, public works and transportation; the chief of the rear construction organization; and representatives of the party committee Secretariat and of the party Military Committee attached to the rear construction organization of Xieng Khouang Province.

Attending on the Vietnamese side were Colonel (Nguyen Duc Duy) chief of the Logistics Department of the Vietnamese People's Army and representatives of the National Defense Ministry; Nguyen Xuan, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the SRV to Laos; Colonel (Thuy), military attache of the SRV to Laos; and (Quy), commander of the construction volunteers' division. Also attending were officers and men concerned of both the Lao and Vietnamese sides.

The formal ceremony began with the playing of the Lao and Vietnamese national anthems. A representative of the organizing committee made an opening speech reporting the purpose of the ceremony. Brig Gen Ki Thoumphala, deputy chief of the Army Political Department, then read on behalf of the National Defense Ministry the decree of the LPDR president awarding the second-class medal of freedom to the neighborly Vietnamese construction volunteers' division aiding Laos. He wholeheartedly hailed and expressed profound gratitude to the Vietnamese division for helping build the housing projects of the rear construction organization of Xieng Khouang. The projects included the LPLA combined forces' training school and a brick factory.

Brig Gen Ki Thoumphala, in his speech at the awards ceremony, particularly appraised the spirit of special solidarity between the armies and peoples of Laos and Vietnam, and expressed his wish for the daily enhancement of this spirit. Brig Gen Ki Thoumphala's speech was followed by a speech in response delivered by Colonel (Nguyen Duc Duy), chief of the Logistics Department of the Vietnamese People's Army and representative of the SRV National Defense Ministry, who expressed thanks to the party, government, National Defense Ministry and people of various nationalities of Laos for their attention to building, expanding and strengthening the traditional solidarity between fraternal Laos and Vietnam.

The representative of the Xieng Khouang Provincial Party Committee then took the floor and expressed profound gratitude to the cadres and combatants for concentrating their energies on the building of the housing projects which have been completed in accordance with the schedule. Nguyen Xuan, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the SRV to Laos, then presented bouquets of flowers to the cadres and combatants of the construction volunteers' division to commend them for their perseverance in overcoming difficulties and obstacles and fulfilling the task.

It was also reported that before attending the ceremony, the Lao and the Vietnamese delegations reviewed the guard of honor and shook hands with officers and men of the division in a warm atmosphere. After the ceremony, they also attended a banquet organized in their honor by the division together with the rear construction organization of Xieng Khouang.

ROAD BUILT WITH SRV ASSISTANCE FORMALLY HANDED OVER

BK240138 Vientiane KPL in English 0909 GMT 24 Jul 82

[Text] Vientiane, July 24 (OANA-KPL) -- A hand-over ceremony of Route No 7 linking Phansavan District and Nam Kan village of Xieng Khouang Province, was officially organized on July 21. This route, which is 130 km long, was constructed with cooperation and assistance from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, in conformity with the agreement signed between the governments of the two countries in 1976.

Present at the hand-over ceremony were Oudom Khatthi-Gna, party Central Committee member, secretary of Sieng Khouang provincial party committee; Singkapo Sikhotchounlamani, deputy minister of communications, public works and transport; Khoun Chandeng, deputy minister for foreign affairs, along with members of the provincial Administrative Committee. Le Nam Hai, deputy minister of communications and transport of the SRV, and Nguyen Xuan, Vietnam's ambassador to Laos, were also present at the ceremony.

On this occasion, Singkapo Sikhotchounlamani and Le Nam Hai hailed the efforts of the road-construction units of Vietnam in overcoming difficulties -- hence leading to the completion of Route No 7. The two personalities also stressed on the friendship relations and cooperation, as well as on the special combative alliance between Laos and Vietnam.

At the end of the ceremony, 10 first level of Victorious Itsela orders, 5 second-level of Victorious Itsela orders, 24 victorious friendship medals, and 4 provincial congratulatory certificates were presented to the Vietnamese assisting teams and its workers.

SRV, PRK PUBLIC HEALTH DELEGATIONS ARRIVE

BK251426 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 25 Jul 82

[Text] Public Health Ministry delegations of the SRV, lead by Public Health Minister Professor Dang Hoi Xuan, and of the PRK, led by Public Health Minister Dr Yit Kimseng, arrived in Vientiane on the afternoon of 24 July to attend a conference of public health ministers of the three countries of Laos, Vietnam and Kampuchea. The conference will be held in Vientiane from 26 to 28 July.

The delegations were welcomed upon their arrival at Wattai Airport by Acting Public Health Minister Professor Vannalet Latsapho and many high-ranking cadres concerned. Also on hand to greet the delegations at the airport on this occasion were Nguyen Xuan and Neou Samom, respectively ambassadors extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the SRV and the PRK to Laos.

TRANSPORT PROTOCOL WITH USSR SIGNED

BK261318 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 23 Jul 82

[Text] On the morning of 17 July, a ceremony was held at the office of the Ministry of Communications, Public Works and Transportation to sign a protocol in accordance with the technical and economic agreement signed between the Lao and Soviet governments on 1 December 1980. The cooperation protocol deals with various aid materials -- heavy transport and moving equipment -- which the Soviet Government will give to the LPDR. The equipment -- worth 1,220,655 rubles -- will be given to the Lao Transit Transport Company for use in transporting and moving Soviet goods donated to Laos.

The protocol was signed for Laos by Comrade Bouasi Lovansai, director of the Lao Transit Transport Company, and for the Soviet Union by Comrade Sizov, economic counselor of the Soviet Embassy in Laos. The signing took place in the presence of Comrade Singkapo Sikhotchounlamani, deputy minister of communications, public health and transportation, and a number of senior Lao and Soviet officials.

NATION REVIEW VIEWS THACH'S SOUTHEAST ASIA TOUR

BK270250 Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 27 Jul 82 p 4

[Editorial: "Thach Can Come to Grips With Reality Here"]

[Text] Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach has been carefully orchestrating his swing through this part of Southeast Asia and we hope he will play his finale in Bangkok by coming up with some sensible propositions when he arrives tomorrow. He took a hard and pugnacious line while in Singapore, played it calm while in Rangoon because even Thach must realize that Burma is one of the very few truly nonaligned nations in this world, and then in Kuala Lumpur he reverted to the hard line again although using milder words than those in Singapore.

Thach knows, and we know, that all these various visits were geared towards his visit here and talks with the Thai authorities. The bone of contention is, of course, Kampuchea which is geographically sandwiched between Vietnam and Thailand.

From the time the communists took over all the three countries of Indochina in 1975, the five ASEAN nations coordinated their policies and their unity was strengthened further after the Vietnamese invasion of Thailand. Even Thach must realize that if he, by cajoling or by threatening, can drive a wedge between Thailand and her ASEAN partners, it is just a pipe dream.

He has accused ASEAN of interfering in the internal affairs of Kampuchea by helping the formation of a coalition government. But those who are actually trying to get rid of foreign interference in Vietnam are Kampuchians -- President Norodom Sihanouk, Vice President Khieu Samphan and Prime Minister Son Sann -- not Thais or those from any other ASEAN country. It has been Vietnam, and only Vietnam, that has indulged in and is indulging in armed interference in Kampuchea. When that is pointed out then he switches his approach to say that it is because of the "Chinese threat."

He also says that Vietnam is pulling out troops from Kampuchea but at the same time says that Vietnam is going to smash the troops of the coalition government and give them "hot pursuit" into Thai territory. Does Thach think he is talking to kindergarten children who will swallow this whole range of inconsistencies?

Thach knows very well that Thailand, being the frontline state, is crucial to take into whatever sinister calculations that have been worked out by Hanoi and Moscow and he can achieve must by sitting down in Bangkok and discussing sensibly the stands taken by Hanoi and ASEAN and trying to find points which can open up a dialogue and explore further avenues to approach the problem. He will be wasting his time if he thinks he can bamboozle the Thai authorities with his spurious logic and non sequiturs. However, we are confident that Thach is sufficiently well-schooled in diplomatic niceties to issue threats to Thailand as he did from Singapore. [sentence as published]

There are several common grounds for Thach to base his discussions while in Bangkok -- there are the UN General Assembly resolutions, the International Conference on Kampuchea resolutions, several statements made in Ho Chi Minh City, by ASEAN, by the United States, by the Soviet Union and China. There is no dearth of subject matter to be discussed about Kampuchea.

Whenever he is at the losing end of an argument, and very often at press conferences, Thach has fallen back on the Chinese threat. That, for him, has been the fallback position but he must realize that if there is a Chinese threat -- possibly there is one because China did teach the "first lesson" -- the place to take up the matter is Beijing and not ASEAN capitals.

Thach must know that there could be a divergence of opinion between China and ASEAN in finding a solution to the Kampuchean problem. China goes along with ASEAN in our search for a political solution but she has not given up her own line of thinking, of "bleeding Vietnam white".

It is the same as Thach saying that the situation in Kampuchea is irreversible -- he did quibble by saying that the presence of Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea is reversible without saying that if the Vietnamese troops leave the Phnom Penh regime will crumble the next day.

ASEAN does not subscribe to Vietnam being bled white nor to the situation in Kampuchea being irreversible. It stands by several international resolutions that "foreign troops" should leave Kampuchea and that the Kampuchean people set up their own government. It is as simple as that.

PREM SEEKS SENATE SUPPORT FOR BUDGET BILL

BK250631 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 25 Jul 82 p 1

[Text] The government will have to rely heavily on Senate support to get the 1983 budget bill through Parliament which debates it on Wednesday and Thursday.

Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon on Friday met about 100 senators at the Supreme Command headquarters and reportedly asked them to attend the debate and back the government on the bill. "I will feel confident when I sit on the bench and see all of you attending the session," a source quoted the prime minister as saying.

A parliamentary source said the government is worried that elected MPS, both from the pro-government and opposition factions, might attempt to block the budget bill if the Senate refuses to amend the Constitution seeking a multiple-constituency and party-voting system in the next general election. To prevent some pro-government MPS from "betraying" the government by voting against the bill, the source said a group of government MPs would submit a motion to the Parliament seeking an open vote on the budget bill. "With an open vote, it will be known who votes for or against the bill," he noted.

The source added that several MPs were dismayed with the multiple-constituency system and would like Parliament to be dissolved so that an election can be held before it comes into effect. Through Deputy Prime Minister Pramarn Adireksan, elected MPs have already made their views known to Senate leaders regarding the Constitution amendment.

Meanwhile Pol Maj Gen Sa-Nga Kittikhachon, a senior member of the National Democracy Party, said yesterday that he was certain the budget bill would be approved. But, he said, the bill will be heavily criticised, especially on tax collection which is likely to fall short of next year's target of 127,865 million baht. He added that he was against a move by several MPs pressing for the change of the electoral system as stipulated in Articles 90 and 91 of the Constitution. If the charter is to be amended, other undemocratic practices should also be rectified, he said.

FOURTH ARMY LAUNCHES NEW CAMPAIGN IN SOUTH

BK270245 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 27 Jul 82 p 2

[Text] The Fourth Army Region has launched a new anti-communist campaign with the aim of destroying all major bases of the insurgents in the southern provinces of Surat Thani, Chumphon and Ranong.

Chief of the Fourth Army Region's information section said yesterday that the objective of the new drive, code-named "Tai Rom Yen-12 Phase 3", is to seize and destroy insurgent strongholds in Khirirat Nikhom, Phanom and Tha Chana Districts of Surat Thani, in Ramae and Lang Suan Districts of Chumphon and in Tha To subdistrict of Ranong.

When the Phase 3 operation is completed, the communists will have no major bases left in the south "except some small camps and hideouts", chief of the information section Col Thammarak Itsarangkun Na Ayutthaya told a press conference held at a military base in Surat Thani yesterday. Col Thammarak said the drive began last weekend with separate attacks by government forces against three communist camps in Chumphon, Ranong and Surat Thani.

According to Col Thammarak, the government forces successfully seized and destroyed all the three camps. Four insurgents were also captured alive.

On Saturday at 9 p.m. government troops under the command of Lt-Col Sathon Suwansi approached a communist camp in an area adjoining Ramae District of Chumphon and Tha To subdistrict of Ranong, Col Thammarak disclosed. The forces attacked the Fong Klan camp about 3 p.m. on Sunday and after 30 minutes of fighting were able to overrun the camp and capture the camp leader identified as Samniang Chaiphan or Comrade Wut.

Meanwhile, another unit of the government forces under the command of Lt-Col Lap Butprayun attacked Camp 514 in Phanom District of Surat Thani and was able to seize the camp before dawn.

On Sunday another insurgent camp in Nong Ya Plong, Ban Ta Khun in Surat Thani also fell after an attack by a unit of government forces led by Lt-Sol Samrong Pinglang, according to Col Thammarak.

AFP REPORTS ON LAO REFUGEES IN NORTHEAST

BK270215 Hong Kong AFP in English 0156 GMT 27 Jul 82

[Text] Ubon Ratchathani, northeastern Thailand, July 27 (AFP) -- Like most of the other 11,000-plus men, women and children in this northeastern refugee camp, Khamlai Khamphoui and her family have reached the end of the line. With an ever-dwindling chance of resettlement in a third country, the only way they can go is back.

Used as an ammunition dump during the Vietnam war, the Ubon Ratchathani camp is home for 11,215 Lao people. Some of them have been here seven years and some for only a few months. "They are faced with the question of resettlement or repatriation, and more and more are resigning themselves [words indistinct] the country from which they fled," one official said.

Including a team from the Japanese Volunteer Centre, there are about 40 aid workers in the camp, operated jointly by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Thai Ministry of Interior. Later this week, about 3,000 people are to be moved from Ubon Ratchathani to Nakhon Phanom to be processed for resettlement in third countries.

"There is no firm promise of their being taken, but it is a step forward," one official said. "Others who see no chance of resettlement have chosen to return." Over the past two years, nearly 400 Lao people from the camp have chosen to be repatriated. UNHCR officials in Bangkok say that reports from their office in Vientiane show that the returnees have no problems with the Lao authorities and are allowed to go back to their homes to carry on their lives. But many will not return as long as the Vietnamese are in Laos.

Khamlai is one. She, her husband and their three children, one of whom was born in the camp, have been in Ubon Ratchathani for nearly three years. Her husband was a corporal in the army, and together with a group of 40 or 50 desperate Laos, paid an agent to organise their flight from southern Laos. Clutching her baby son, she said: "I do not know what we will do, but we will never go back."

The camp is due to be closed at the end of the year. "We don't know yet what will happen, but possibly these people could be sent to another camp," one official said. Camp workers say that the Thai Army has been instructed to keep Lao people from crossing into Thailand, using force if necessary.

"In spite of this we get between 10 and 20 trickling in each week," said one. "People are also slipping in at night. I don't know how many, but I cannot say zero."

Although there are no teaching facilities for the more than 3,000 children under 11 years old in the camp, the volunteers run an auto repair school, a weaving class, a library and are starting a soap-making factory. "Basically we are training people who will return to Laos with these skills," one worker said. "About 70 percent of the camp population is undecided as to what to do, but they will probably go back."

LAOS REVOKES THAI FIRM'S LOGGING CONCESSION

BK260407 Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 26 Jul 82 p 24

[By Phonphimon Akrachalanon]

[Text] The Laotian Government has revoked a multi-million-baht logging concession granted earlier to a Thai firm after the latter failed to deposit a U.S. \$300,000 (about 7 million baht) as guarantee within a specified period.

An informed source in the Commerce Ministry said that Vientiane had instead invited another Thai company to take over the deal. The new company, which was not identified by the source, was given three months to conduct a survey on the trees submerged in the reservoir of the Nam Ngum dam of Laos.

The source said the Laotian Government decided to revoke the logging concession given to Udon Thai Samanmit Ltd partnership because of its failure to deposit the U.S. \$300,000 guarantee within 30 days after the contract was signed earlier this year. The company reportedly used a little-known bank in Hong Kong to serve as the guarantor, prompting the Laotian Government to withdraw the concession.

Commercial counsellor of the Thai Embassy in Vientiane Woratthep Suphadun said the concession will last five years and the concessionaire will have to deposit a guarantee of U.S. \$300,000 within 30 days after signing the contract. The concessionaire is required to pay for the logs 55 percent of the export price of Laotian timber. It has been estimated that the concession will cover up to 100,000 million cubic metres of timber. Woratthep quoted a report by experts as showing that the volume of the logs submerged in the dam for the past seven years is around 400,000 million cubic metres.

The source said Vientiane still prefers to have Thailand handle the deal and has already commissioned an unidentified Thai firm to conduct a survey to be completed in three months beginning July.

The Thai commercial counsellor said Thai timber businessmen had experienced problems in dealing with Laos. They often charged that Laotian authorities had imposed restrictions and complicated rules which disrupted their business deals. "But on the other hand, the Laotians accused Thai businessmen of harbouring ill intention toward their country and being unscrupulous," he said. A few firms from Japan and Hong Kong have reportedly tried to vie for the controversial logging concession but Vientiane still wants Thailand to handle it.

Commerce Minister Punmi Punyasi will lead a 14-man delegation to visit Laos between August 11-13 to promote trade relations between the two countries. Among the major topics to be discussed is the rampant cross-border smuggling, which has partly affected the trade contracts signed by the two countries when a Thai trade delegation visited Vientiane on March 8-11 this year. The contracts signed then were for Thailand to export 2,500 bicycles, 2,200 sets of car tyres, 4,000 truck tyres, 2,500 dozens of T-shirts and construction materials to Laos. But the exporters have found it difficult to compete with deals made through smuggling, thus, their trade had not been encouraging.

KHUN SA FORCES SEIZE 'MAJOR' WNA STRONGHOLD

BK270209 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 27 Jul 82 pp 1, 3

[By Subin Khuankhaeo]

[Text] Chiang Mai -- An 800-man force from the Shan United Army (SUA), assisted by 200 Kuomintang and Lahu (Muser) hilltribesmen, seized a major stronghold of the leftist Wa National Army (WNA) in a fierce battle near the Thai-Burmese border here over the weekend. The seizure followed a month-long sporadic fighting between the SUA and the WNA for control over the opium trail on the Burmese side of Doi Lang mountain near Mae Ai District.

A Thai Border Patrol Police [BPP] source quoted hilltribes people who fled into Thailand as saying that at least 10 men were killed and many more were wounded. More than 20 wounded guerrillas from both sides later sought treatment at Fang District Hospital and those seriously injured were sent to Suan Dok Hospital in Chiang Mai's Muang District.

The two-day battle forced more than 500 hilltribes people on Doi Lang Mountain to seek refuge in Mae Ai District while more than 100 families living on the Thai side of the mountain had to be evacuated to safer areas.

The BPP source said that both the Shan force and the WNA were heavily armed with M-16's, AK-47's, 60-mm mortars, heavy machineguns, M-79 grenade launchers and 75-mm recoilless guns. He said the sporadic fighting which has been going on since the beginning of this month escalated when the SUA, led by opium warlord Khun Sa, joined forces with the Kuomintang and the Lahus, who belong to the Lahu State Army, in an attempt to take complete control of the Burmese side of Doi Lang.

Khun Sa's men were in total control of the mountain by Saturday afternoon, according to the BPP source. He added that Khun Sa views the Burmese side of Doi Lang as a convenient site for opium refining and trafficking and wants it to replace his old stronghold at Ban Thoet Thai (formerly Ban Hin Taek) which is now under the Thai Government's control. The source quoted villagers as saying that Khun Sa has hired a number of local villagers to help fell trees needed for the construction of a new base at Doi Lang.

Some fighting was yesterday still going on between the pursuing Shan force and the WNA. The latter was reported to have retreated but later it seized ground near the Kok River in an attempt to repulse Khun Sa's men. The Burmese military, meanwhile, was reported to have recruited hilltribesmen to help carry weapons through the rugged terrain to suppress the SUA force. A new battle was expected soon between the SUA and Burmese Government soldiers, said the source.

At the Thai border village of Ban Tha Ton and in Mae Ai District, the local Border Patrol Police and village volunteers have begun night patrols following the disclosure that a number of armed WNA guerrillas had escaped into Thailand. The source said that a villager reported on Sunday night that he was stopped at gunpoint by a band of 10 fully-armed men believed to be WNA members. The villager was questioned by the men and asked what the name of the area was.

The Border Patrol Police have employed armoured personnel carriers during the night patrols but so far there has been no clash between them and the fleeing WNA members, the source said.

FOREIGN INVESTMENT DROPS TO 5-YEAR LOW

BK260235 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 26 Jul 82 p 13

[Text] Thailand's investment for the first half of this year has dropped to the lowest level in the past five years. The number of investment applications received by the Board of Investment [BOI], their investment capital and foreign equity involved has declined by 30 percent, 80 percent and 86 percent respectively, as compared to the same period last year.

Japan, which used to be the largest foreign source of local investment, has shown very little interest in investing in Thailand so far this year, the Board of Investment said.

The BOI attributed the gloomy investment trend to investors' doubts about economic conditions both worldwide and in Thailand. It said, "Although the business and industrial world has expressed the hope of economic recovery in 1982 after the slump in business last year, it appears that this has not happened so far."

The BOI received only 97 applications for promotional privileges as against 139 applications received in the first half of 1981, a decrease of 42 applications or about 30 percent.

The amount of investment capital earmarked for projects also showed a significant decline from 40,601 million baht in the first six months of last year to 7,904 million baht in 1982, a sharp drop of 80 percent.

The registered capital of foreign entities in the 97 applications were only 375 million baht as against the amount of 2,505 million baht in the first half of last year, a considerable drop of 2,130 million baht or 86 percent.

The BOI said that only a few applications during the first six months were considered large projects with investment of over 100 million baht each, such as projects involving production of ethanol, HDPE resin, slaughter-house, and processing plants for meat, pork and poultry. Most of the applications were for small and medium sized projects involving service businesses and production of general goods, the BOI said.

It was also noted that the pattern of foreign interest in investment in Thailand has also dropped with the most significant change being Japan, which used to be the prime investor in Thailand.

In the first six months, the countries which have shown most interest in investing in Thailand, ranking in order of importance, are Hong Kong, the Philippines, the Netherlands, the United States, and Malaysia. Last year, they were Japan, Singapore, Britain, the United States and the Netherlands.

The BOI further noted that it granted promotional privileges to 57 projects between January and June this year as compared to 98 projects in the same period of last year, a drop of 42 percent or 41 applications.

Large projects of importance included the production of newsprint, glass sheets, bolts and nuts, sports shoes, ampicilin, non-dairy creamers, insulators, animal feed, leather tanning, a hotel in Bangkok and two hotels in Phuket.

During the first six months of this year, 41 promoted projects commenced operations -- five projects or 11 percent less than the figure of the same period last year, the BOI said. The number of promotion certificates issued during the first six months of 1982 increased from 53 issued in January-June 1981 to 72 this year, an increase of 19 projects or 36 percent.

BRIEFS

JAPANESE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE -- Japan will give Thailand about 920 million baht in technical assistance and financial aid this year, according to the director general of the Department of Technical and Economic Cooperation. Japan ranks first among donors of aid to Thailand. Japan will provide about 445 million baht worth of technical assistance, including educational training, technical advisers, volunteers and equipment. The remaining about 475 million baht will finance various projects in the fifth 5-year national economic and social development plan, including establishment of a research center and the educational program at Sukhothai Thammathirat University, training courses at the Forestry Department and the trade training center for the Commercial Relations Department. Japan will also continue to send doctors and nurses to refugee camps in Thailand and will join with the United States in developing agriculture in the northeast of Thailand. [Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1100 GMT 15 Jul 82 BK]

NHAN DAN VIEWS ASEAN ECONOMIC TIES WITH WEST, JAPAN

BK261444 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 24 Jul 82

["Excerpt" from NHAN DAN 24 July article by Le Ba Thuyen: "Unequal Marriage"]

[Text] The five ASEAN countries are rich in natural resources. Found here are tin mines with the largest deposits in the world, important pockets of petroleum and natural gas, and immense groves of rubber, coconut, palm and pepper trees. The tin output of this region accounts for 72 percent of the entire world's supply; natural rubber, 83 percent; coconut oil products, 64 percent; palm oil, 84 percent; and pepper, 57 percent. Of the world's precious tropical timber reserves, 90 percent are located here. For this reason, the U.S. capitalist cliques and many capitalist countries have jumped into this region to amass profits to the detriment of the legitimate interests of the peoples of the ASEAN countries.

The U.S. Octopus

Recently, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Albrecht testified before the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee: We need the ASEAN countries as a source of raw materials necessary for our survival, as an expanding market for U.S. exports and as an area for private U.S. investment. By investing in this region, the United States can easily reap huge profits. Take the private U.S. investment corporation OPIC [Overseas Private Investment Corporation], for example. According to a report prepared on 8 June 1982 by Craig Nalen, president of OPIC, with the help of OPIC many U.S. capitalists have invested in various important economic sectors of the ASEAN countries a total of \$597 million -- a tenfold increase over 4 years ago -- and the profits they have received, as admitted by Nalen, are by no means insignificant. Some \$321 million have been invested in the natural gas exploitation project in the Gulf of Thailand and this project is expected to yield \$1.3 billion during its 20-year viability period. U.S. multinational corporations are busy operating in this region.

In the ASEAN capitals, many U.S. factories have sprung up producing electronic components, textiles and consumer goods. The U.S. capitalist cliques completely control the exploitation of chrome and 80 percent of the tin processing industry in the ASEAN countries; and they control the exploitation of copper completely in Indonesia and 43 percent of it in the Philippines. Large U.S. oil companies such as Caltex, Stanvac and Esso play a key role in oil exploitation in this region.

According to Albrecht's report, the total U.S. capital invested in the ASEAN countries, which stood at \$1.5 billion about 10 years ago, has now reached the \$10 billion mark. This huge investment has not only yielded colossal profits for the multinational corporations, but it also guarantees large and diverse supplies of raw materials for the United States.

At a time when the United States is facing a shrinking world market, Washington is seeking by every means to turn the ASEAN countries into an important outlet for U.S. goods. In 1981, the United States sold nearly \$9 billion worth of goods to these countries -- an increase of 30 percent over 1979 -- while trade between the United States and ASEAN totaled \$22 billion, making the latter Washington's fifth important client.

In a statement before the U.S. Senate on 8 June, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense Armitage stressed that, over the past 10 years, U.S. economic interests have steadily increased in the resource-rich ASEAN countries, and that this is not a region we can ignore.

Like an octopus, the United States is increasingly tightening its grip on this important region.

Behind the Flowery Rhetoric

Running a close second to the United States in investing in the ASEAN countries is Japan. And understandably so, since Japan has to import almost all the petroleum and important raw materials it needs. The energy and raw materials crisis which grips the entire capitalist world, the unstable situation in the oil producing Middle East and the difficulties facing the capitalist market have prompted Tokyo to pay special attention to the ASEAN countries.

Japan's Prime Minister Suzuki took pains to visit the ASEAN countries, declaring that he brought to them sentiments of everlasting friendship and that priority was being given to Japan-ASEAN relations. He also drummed up publicity for mutually beneficial cooperation. All this is aimed at nothing more than serving the interests of the Japanese capitalist circles. The news agency KYODO has clearly pointed out that the policy of Japan-ASEAN economic cooperation consists of giving priority to cooperation in the fields of agriculture and energy, the exploitation of manpower and the development of industry in these countries.

To date, Japan has poured into the ASEAN countries more than \$8 billion of its worldwide investment of \$36 billion. This money is concentrated on important sectors such as energy, mining and electronics industries and agricultural and food production. As the prices of land on its archipelago soar, manpower is in short supply and environmental pollution keeps spreading, Japan is intensifying the construction in the ASEAN countries of noxious chemical factories and enterprises which discharge large amounts of dangerous wastes or which require hard labor. It is also exporting environmental pollution to these countries.

The Chinese authorities, craving the rich natural resources of the region, have for a long time coveted the Southeast Asian countries, including the ASEAN states. While it has not yet been able to realize its dream of expanding to the entire Southeast Asian region, Beijing wants to use economic relations as a means of drawing the ASEAN countries into its orbit and to entice them into confronting the Indochinese countries. Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang's tour of the ASEAN countries has revealed part of this scheme.

Realities over the past few years have enabled the Southeast Asian peoples to see ever more clearly that behind the flowery rhetoric is the imperialist and international reactionary forces' scheme to preserve and expand their influence in Southeast Asia so as to plunder its resources, to amass profits by exploitation, and to implement sinister political and military plans.

Growing Indignation

The conference between the ASEAN and developed capitalist countries, including the United States and Japan, held in Singapore in mid-June 1982, proceeded in a rather tense atmosphere. Right from his opening speech, Singapore's prime minister complained that the recession in the capitalist world is exerting a direct and dangerous impact on the ASEAN countries' economy, and that people -- referring to the most developed capitalist countries -- would resort to more sophisticated measures to divide ASEAN and to cover their protectionist policy. He also predicted that differences between the ASEAN and industrial countries may increase.

Some delegates bitterly declared that the ASEAN countries are not a trashcan into which people can dump any kind of unsold or surplus goods.

In reality, the indignation felt by the ASEAN countries toward the developed capitalist countries, especially the United States and Japan, has many causes. Along with increasing investments, flooding the market with goods to paralyze the young local economies, and amassing huge profits, the capitalist countries have dumped on the heads of the peoples of the ASEAN countries the disastrous effect of the West's economic recession. The economic structure of the ASEAN countries, being dependent chiefly on exports, has been badly and directly affected by the general recession.

Meanwhile, the United States, Japan and the EEC countries have tried to curtail imports by imposing high tariffs against textile items, shoes and sandals, home appliances and plywood, thus creating major export difficulties for the ASEAN countries.

Many ASEAN leaders have protested the fact that the United States has, out of an egoistic desire to reduce inflation at home, increased bank interest rates, thus making the price of goods exported by ASEAN decline on the international market. Another hot issue is that the policies of trade protection enforced by the United States, Japan and the EEC have made it very difficult for ASEAN to export its products to these countries. The recent conference of the foreign ministers of the five ASEAN countries criticized the Western countries for planning to close off their markets to ASEAN textile products by the introduction of the so-called provision against the overflow of textile products; and also complained about their policy of discrimination.

Obviously, the ASEAN countries have suffered great damage in their unequal marriage with the United States and Japan. It was against such a background that the conference of foreign ministers of the ASEAN countries held in June of this year devised measures aimed at countering the trade protection policies of the Western countries and called for the holding of international negotiations in order to proceed toward establishing a new international economic order.

A just, equal and rational new economic order can only be achieved if the developing countries and the nonaligned countries, together with the forces of peace, national independence, democracy and social progress in the world, unite and strengthen their mutual cooperation in a persistent struggle against the monopoly of the imperialist forces.

HANOI HITS THAI OPPOSITION TO 'PEACE PROPOSALS'

BK261250 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Station commentary]

[Text] The world public is warmly welcoming the proposals for peace and stability put forth by the foreign ministers of Laos, Kampuchea and Vietnam at their recent sixth conference in Ho Chi Minh City. Despite this fact, certain Thai authorities in Bangkok are chiming in with Beijing's allegations to distort the Indochinese initiative. Here is our commentary:

More and more people have raised their voices in support of Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos, particularly after these countries took the first step of initiative by withdrawing part of Vietnamese army units from Kampuchea. This action, they believe, shows the good will of the Indochinese countries toward Thailand. This action also proves that the Kampuchean situation is now stable.

The NEW YORK TIMES, in a recent issue, quoted Indonesian Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja as saying that Vietnam's partial withdrawal of its troops from Kampuchea is a significant deed. Many Western observers also hailed the Indochinese proposals, saying that they contain new points and can hardly be denied. However, certain Thai authorities in Bangkok are deliberately shutting their eyes to this fact. Harping on Beijing's allegations, they bluntly say that the partial withdrawal of Vietnamese forces from Kampuchea is only to deceive public opinion. They evade the proposal for establishing a security zone along the Kampuchean-Thai border. They reason that Thailand is not a party involved in the conflict.

Let's ask them: Who are allowing the genocidal Pol Pot clique and other Khmer reactionary groups to use Thai soil as a springboard to oppose the revival of the Kampuchean people? Who join Beijing in the farce of putting a new cloth on the political corpse of Democratic Kampuchea? And who plan to provide military aid for this disbanded clique of Pol Pot?

If they had received no support from certain Thai authorities, the remnants of the Pol Pot clique and other Khmer reactionaries would have been eliminated, peace and stability would have been restored in the Kampuchean-Thai border area and there would have been no Thai families leaving their home because of Khmer bandit activities.

Undoubtedly, Bangkok's words and deeds run counter to the legitimate interests of the Thai people and to the interests of peace and stability in Southeast Asia. On the outcome of Bangkok's policy tailing after Beijing, the Thai paper PATINYA on 12 July 1982 remarked: Efforts to prolong the conflict in Kampuchea are causing damage to Thailand and only pushing Thailand further along the road of adventure. Another Thai paper, MATUPHUM, on 8 July 1982 maintained that Thailand should seek the way of dialogue with the Indochinese countries.

All practical-minded observers see the way of dialogue opened by the Indochinese countries as the only correct one in keeping with the legitimate aspirations and interests of the Thai people and other peoples in Southeast Asia. So, the Thai authorities should adopt a practical attitude and take a suitable stand.

NGUYEN CO THACH INTERVIEWED ON VISIT TO BURMA

OW262056 Hanoi VNA in English 1521 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, July 26 -- The following is the full text of an interview granted recently by Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach to VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY.

Question: Could you speak of the result of your visit to the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma?

Answer: During my friendship visit to the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma, I called on the president and the prime minister of Burma and conveyed to them greetings of President of the Council of State Truong Chinh and Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong. I conferred with Foreign Minister U Chit Hlaing and other high officials of the Burmese Foreign Ministry. The Burmese leaders were greatly interested in promoting relations between the two countries. Vietnam and Burma, which are alike in many ways, can cooperate and compare notes with each other in many spheres of economic development, especially in agriculture. Vietnam and Burma share common interests in maintaining peace and stability in the region. I gave thorough explanations of the proposals of the latest foreign ministerial conference of Laos, Kampuchea and Vietnam. The Burmese side said it welcomed all proposals conducive to peace and stability in the region, and deemed it necessary to maintain contacts and increase bilateral ties. The Burmese foreign minister accepted my invitation to visit Vietnam.

Question: What is your impression of the economic achievements of the Burmese people?

Answer: Burma has many natural advantages. It is twice as large as Vietnam while its population accounts for only two-fifths of ours. Burma's arable area is very large, but only more than five million hectares have been put under cultivation and the country is rarely affected by natural calamities. With such good conditions the country could have made great progress in economic development, had it not been for a great obstacle to the Burmese people's peaceful labour -- the threat posed to their security and stability for more than three decades now by the Chinese-backed rebels, and this in spite of the Burmese Government's friendship with China. Even so the Burmese people, with their determination, have recorded great achievements in recent years. Rice output in 1981 increased to 14 million tonnes over the 8 million in 1976, with a percapital output of 500 kilogrammes. Since 1978, there has been an increase of 10 per cent every year. Burma now exports almost one million tonnes of rice a year.

It also produces 1.5 million tonnes of oil and is self-sufficient in this fuel. Besides it mines 27 million tonnes of coal a year and grows half of the cotton it needs.

Question: What prospect do you envision for relations between the two countries?

Answer: Both countries are satisfied with the development of their relations which have remained very close for 35 years now, even in the most difficult moments. In the first stage of the Vietnamese people's resistance to the French from 1947 to 1950, the Burmese people gave us a wholehearted support. During the war against the United States, the Burmese Government and people condemned the U.S. for bombing North Vietnam and spraying toxic chemicals on South Vietnam. Since 1979, when reactionary elements in the Beijing leadership overtly adopted a hostile policy to isolate Vietnam, relations between Vietnam and Burma have further developed, as marked by Premier Pham Van Dong's visit to Burma in April 1980 and by the Burmese foreign minister's visit to Vietnam in January 1981. Both countries are desirous of promoting their relations in the interests of peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

TASS INTERVIEWS FOREIGN MINISTER THACH IN BURMA

For a Moscow TASS English report from Rangoon on an interview with Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach while visiting Burma, see the 26 July Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page E 2.

NGUYEN CO THACH DISCUSSES RELATIONS WITH PRC

AU261256 Vienna WIENER ZEITUNG in German 25 Jul 82 p 2

[Text] Hanoi (APA) -- Vietnam has again and again expressed its wish to conclude a nonaggression pact with China. This was stressed by SRV Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach in a talk with Austrian journalists in connection with Foreign Minister Willibald Pahr's recent visit to Hanoi. A security guarantee from Beijing for the three states of Indochina would permit an immediate withdrawal of all Vietnamese forces from Kampuchea, Nguyen Co Thach added. With the current reduction of its forces stationed in the neighbor country, Vietnam has signalled its good will. The total withdrawal will only be effected, however, when the "threat" which is now hanging over Kampuchea and all if Indochina has ended, Nguyen Co Thach said. The minister avoided making any distinction between the threat posed by China and that posed by the Khmer Rouge, and pointed out that Beijing -- along with its support for the Khmer Rouge -- repeatedly threatened a "second lesson" for Vietnam (the Chinese campaign against Vietnam in 1979 had been labeled a "lesson" by Beijing). The Vietnamese initiatives for negotiations have always been rejected by Beijing, he said.

Viewing the relationship between the Chinese and Vietnamese in historical dimensions, Vietnam is "exceedingly optimistic," Nguyen Co Thach stressed, pointing out that this relationship had never been free of problems "for 4,000 years." "Today the relations are tense, but we are independent, and this independence cannot be called into question," the foreign minister underscored. He added that a second military "lesson" by China was hardly to be expected in view of the Chinese debacle 3 years ago, but China's economic sabotage in the border regions entails serious consequences for Vietnam. Like Premier Pham Van Dong, Nguyen Co Thach does not admit any connection between Vietnam's economic difficulties and the partial withdrawal from Kampuchea. Rather, he claims that the troop reduction is proof of the fact that the military situation has been further stabilized in favor of the Heng Samrin government.

Vietnam's foreign minister considers an understanding with the ASEAN states to be Hanoi's foremost goal at present and is of the opinion that Austria is making a "great contribution toward peace in Southeast Asia."

Regardless of its unchanged (negative) position vis-a-vis the International Kampuchea Conference (IKC), whose resolutions in Hanoi's opinion are "false decisions," Vietnam is hoping that Foreign Minister Pahr (who was IKC chairman) will continue his endeavors in Southeast Asia, Nguyen Co Thach declared.

GOVERNMENT STATEMENT BACKS PALESTINIAN STRUGGLE

OW262024 Hanoi VNA in English 1551 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, July 26 -- In a statement issued today, the Vietnamese Government reiterated the Vietnamese people's "close solidarity with and full support for the just and certainly victorious fight of the people of Palestine, Lebanon and other Arab countries against U.S. imperialism and Israeli Zionism." The statement reads in full:

"Over the past two months, backed and encouraged by the U.S. imperialists, Israel has used large army forces to conduct a blatant and barbarous war of aggression against Lebanon in defiance of the condemnation by the progressive people throughout the world.

"This criminal act lies in the framework of 'the strategic alliance between the United States and Israel' aimed at opposing the Palestinian people's resistance war. It grossly encroaches upon Lebanon's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, piling intolerable genocidal crimes against the people of Palestine and Lebanon, and seriously jeopardizing peace and security in the Middle East and the world as a whole.

"The Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam sternly condemns the above crimes of Israel and the United States and demands that they stop at once their invasion and all acts of intervention in Lebanon, withdraw immediately and unconditionally Israeli troops from Lebanon, and respect the legitimate national rights of the people of Palestine and other Arab countries.

"The Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam reaffirms its close solidarity with and firm support for the just and certainly victorious fight of the people of Palestine, Lebanon and other Arab countries against U.S. imperialism and Israel aimed at wresting back all areas occupied by Israel, restore the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people including the right to self-determination, the right to repatriate and set up an independent and sovereign Palestinian state under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization (P.L.O.), the genuine representative of the Palestinian people.

"The Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam warmly welcomes and fully supports President Leonid Brezhnev's statement on the situation in Lebanon and in the Middle East, considering it a great encouragement to the people of Palestine, Lebanon and other Arab countries and a guarantee for peace and security in the region.

"The people and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam are convinced that, though many difficulties and hardships still lie ahead, with their undaunted spirit of struggle and the sympathy and support of the Soviet Union, Vietnam and the other socialist countries, as well as of the whole progressive mankind, the just cause of the people of Palestine and other Arab countries will certainly win glorious victory."

Pham Van Dong Meets PLO Envoy

OW262052 Hanoi VNA in English 1605 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, July 26 -- Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong today received at the Presidential Palace here 'Ali Fayyad, envoy of the Palestine Liberation Organization (P.L.O.), now on a visit to Vietnam.

'Ali Fayyad conveyed to Chairman Phan Van Dong the greetings of militant solidarity from P.L.O. Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and informed him of the current fight of the people and combatants of Palestine, Lebanon and other Arab countries against the brutal war of aggression by U.S.-backed Israel in Lebanon.

Chairman Phan Van Dong warmly praised the courageous fighting spirit and noble sacrifices of the Palestinian liberation combatants now fighting alongside the progressive forces of Lebanon and Arab countries in various battlefields in Lebanon, especially in western Beirut and southern Lebanon temporarily occupied by Israel. He stressed that 'Ali Fayyad's information has given a clearer picture of the fight and victories of the Palestinian people and their armed forces which, he said, had opened the road for the future development of the liberation struggle.

Chairman Phan Van Dong expressed his confidence that, in spite of many difficulties and hardships, with the staunch and undaunted spirit and the support of the whole progressive mankind the just cause of the people of Palestine and other Arab countries is bound to win. He said that just as the Vietnamese people's fight has ended in victory, so will the Palestinian people's fight and that the more hardships the Palestinian people endure the greater victory they will win. The Vietnamese chairman asked the P.L.O. envoy to convey to Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, the P.L.O. Executive Committee, and the entire Palestinian fighters and people the Vietnamese people's warm feelings and greetings of militant solidarity and their firm confidence in their final victory.

'Ali Fayyad expressed sincere gratitude for and high appreciation of the strong support and firm stand of the Vietnamese people towards the just struggle of the people of Palestine and other Arab countries.

The reception took place in an atmosphere of cordiality and militant solidarity.

NHAN DAN Supports Palestinians

OW270723 Hanoi VNA in English 0706 GMT 27 Jul 82

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, July 27 -- Vietnam fully sides with the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples in their struggle against U.S. imperialism and Israeli aggression, says NHAN DAN in a commentary today.

The paper points out that the U.S.-abetted Israeli warmongers have launched a barbarous aggressive war in Lebanon, an independent and sovereign Arab country. It says: "This large-scale aggression aims at wiping out the leadership and armed forces of the Palestine Liberation Organization, destroying the Palestinian people's resistance, annexing Lebanese territories, rigging up in Beirut a pro-U.S. and pro-Israeli administration, and eventually imposing a U.S.-Israeli neo-colonialist rule on the whole of the Middle East".

"However", it goes on, "in the face of firm resistance from the heroic Palestinian people led by the P.L.O. and the patriotic Lebanese and other progressive Arab forces, the U.S.-backed Zionists have sustained more and more human and material losses than in their previous aggressive wars against Arab nations".

The expansionist Zionists have become further isolated in the world, the paper notes, adding that the longer they maintain their occupation of Lebanon, the more serious will be their military, political and economic difficulties. Hailing Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev's recent statement on the situation in Lebanon and the rest of the Middle East as a great encouragement for the just cause of the P.L.O. and the Palestinian, Lebanese and other Arab nations, the paper points out that the united strength of the peace and justice-loving people in the world has strongly developed. The government and the people of Vietnam have always sided with the Palestinian, Lebanese and other Arab nations in their struggle against U.S. imperialism and Israeli aggression, the paper recalls.

It quotes the Vietnamese Government as reiterating in its July 26 statement its strong solidarity with and resolute support for the surely victorious just cause of the Palestinian, Lebanese and other Arab nations against U.S. imperialism and Israel.

The paper says: "The Vietnamese people vehemently condemn Israel and the United States, and demand that they put an immediate end to their aggression and all acts of intervention, immediately and unconditionally withdraw all Zionist armed forces from Lebanon, and respect the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian and other Arab nations".

NHAN DAN concludes by quoting Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong as having declared that the Vietnamese people warmly praised the courageous struggle and sacrifices of the Palestinian combatants and completely believed in the final great victory of the just cause of the P.L.O. and the fraternal Palestinian people.

DO MUOI ATTENDS CUBAN ENVOY'S RECEPTION 26 JULY

OW262110 Hanoi VNA in English 1602 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, July 26 -- The ambassador of Cuba to Vietnam, Faure Chomon Mediavilla, gave a reception here this evening in honour of the 29th anniversary of the national rebellion of Cuba.

Present at the event were Do Muoi, member of the Political Bureau of the party C.C. and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Major-General Vu Xuan Chiem, vice-minister of national defence; Vo Dong Giang, vice-minister for foreign affairs; and Nguyen Van Trong, vice-chairman of the Commission for External Relations of the party C.C. Ambassadors and charges affaires a.i. of socialist countries to Vietnam were also present.

At the reception, Ambassador Chomon Mediavilla and Vice-Chairman Do Muoi proposed toasts for greater successes of the Cuban and Vietnamese revolution and constant strengthening of the militant solidarity and cooperation between the two countries.

PARTY SENDS GREETINGS TO 16TH JCP CONGRESS

OW270801 Hanoi VNA in English 0714 GMT 27 Jul 82

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, July 27 -- The Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee has sent its warm greetings to the 16th Congress of the Communist Party of Japan (JCP).

After expressing high appreciation of the courageous struggle of the JCP, the revolutionary vanguard and genuine representative of the Japanese working class and people, over the past half-century, the message says: "Since World War Two, the JCP, promoting its tradition of indomitable struggle, has together with other democratic and progressive forces in Japan, uncompromisingly struggled against U.S. imperialism and Japanese monopoly capital, for a really independent, democratic, peaceful, neutral and prosperous Japan, thereby contributing to the world people's common struggle for peace, national independence, democracy and socialism. The JCP has grown stronger and stronger, and has become an important factor in the political life in Japan".

"The Communist Party of Vietnam highly values the achievements obtained by the Communist Party of Japan over the past sixty years and believes that it will gain further success in the future. We avail ourselves of this opportunity to thank the Communist Party, the working class and the democratic forces of Japan as a whole for their whole-hearted support for the Vietnamese people during their past anti-U.S. resistance for national salvation as well as their present socialist construction and national defence.

"May the solidarity, friendship and cooperation between the Communist Party of Vietnam and the Communist Party of Japan and between the Vietnamese and Japanese peoples constantly consolidate and develop.

"Success to the 16th Congress of the Communist Party of Japan."

LAO FRIENDSHIP DELEGATION DEPARTS 26 JULY

OW262100 Hanoi VNA in English 1519 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, July 26 -- A delegation of the Laos-Vietnam Friendship Association left here today after taking part in celebrating the fifth anniversary of the Vietnam-Laos treaty of friendship and cooperation.

During its stay, the delegation, led by Tiao [as received] Souk Yongsak, member of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party, minister of health and president of the association, paid tribute at the Ho Chi Minh mausoleum and visited economic and cultural establishments in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City and [other] places.

It was seen off by Tran Huu Duc, president of the Vietnam-Laos Friendship Association, Lao Ambassador Khampheun Tounalom, and other officials.

VFF SIGNS COOPERATION PROTOCOL WITH PDRY

OW262058 Hanoi VNA in English 1532 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, July 26 -- A protocol on cooperation between the People's Defence Committee of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and the Vietnam Fatherland Front has been signed in Aden recently.

This took place during a visit by a Vietnamese delegation by Nguyen Thi Dinh, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party and president of the Women's Union.

Nguyen Thi Dinh and her party were also received by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad al-Hasani, secretary-general of the Yemeni Socialist Party.

BRIEFS -

NEW INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS -- Hanoi, 24 Jul (VNA) -- Two types of small-sized turbine, each with a capacity of 250 KW, have been manufactured by the electric equipment manufacture and repair company under the Ministry of Power, for use at small hydroelectric power stations in mountain regions. These turbines have been installed at small hydroelectric power stations in Quang Nam-Da Nang Province on the central coast, and in Cao Bang Province, at the northern border. The Institute of Farm Machinery Research under the Ministry of Engineering and Metallurgy has turned out a cassava drying machine to replace the old manual method. The new machine is compact and easy to handle, and can process cassava into flour or vermicelli. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1541 GMT 24 Jul 82 OW]

KOMPAS SUGGESTS SIHANOUK-HENG SAMRIN TALKS

BK250408 Hong Kong AFP in English 0353 GMT 25 Jul 82

[Text] Jakarta, July 25 (AFP) -- The influential Indonesian daily KOMPAS today suggested that talks be held between the head of the anti-Vietnamese Cambodian coalition government, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, and the leader of the pro-Vietnamese Phnom Penh regime, Heng Samrin, to seek a peaceful settlement of the Cambodian problem.

"If the Cambodian problem is allowed to become protracted, it would not only poison the good relations between Vietnam and its neighbours but also eventually undermine the regional strength and lead to the undesirable presence of the big powers," the paper said in an editorial.

The paper criticised Hanoi's reasoning that its presence in Cambodia had been prompted by the Chinese threat. "If Vietnam fears Chinese hegemony, Cambodia also fears Vietnam in the same way," KOMPAS said.

The newspaper also called on the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) not to view the coalition government on the basis of Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan or rightist figure Son Sann, but to "look at Prince Sihanouk, a Cambodian nationalist figure who has shown his solid attitude during the Cambodian war."

INDONESIA TIMES VIEWS INDOCHINA COMMUNIQUE

BK260608 Jakarta THE INDONESIA TIMES in English 20 Jul 82 p 2

[Editorial: "Kampuchea: Willingness To Find a Way Out"]

[Text] Almost coinciding with the formation of the loose Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea headed by President Sihanouk, the conference of the three Indochinese foreign ministers in Ho Chi Minh City issued a joint communique containing the Vietnamese decision to withdraw part of its troops from Kampuchea and proposals for a limited international conference on Southeast Asia to be attended by the three Indochinese states, the five ASEAN countries, the five permanent members of the Security Council, and Burma and India, and for a safety zone free of Khmer guerrilla groups along the Thai-Kampuchean border. Vietnam has announced that it has already started the partial withdrawal.

Some ASEAN leaders have dismissed the communique as a propaganda gambit, but others have reacted to it positively.

After holding talks with Willibald Pahr, the Austrian foreign minister chairman of the International Conference on Kampuchea who had extensive talks with the Vietnamese authorities in Hanoi, Malaysian Foreign Minister Tun Ghazali Shafie stated on Saturday that he would be encouraged if the Vietnamese offer of a partial withdrawal eventually leads to a total withdrawal of all Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea. The impression Tun Ghazali Shafie gathered from Willibald Pahr, whom he described as candid and completely objective, was that there appeared to be a willingness on the part of Vietnam to find a way out of the "quagmire" and that if this was so then ASEAN would be more than willing to help.

This is really a sound and mature attitude. Indonesian leaders will support such an openminded attitude. Other ASEAN leaders too, after eliminating emotions and dogmatism, will also adopt the same attitude as implied in Tun Ghazali Shafie's statement.

Our main intention as stipulated in the United Nations resolutions on Kampuchea is complete withdrawal of the Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea and to allow the Kampuchean people to choose their own government through free elections under the auspices of an impartial and competent international agency. Besides, the ASEAN countries would like to have peaceful and beneficial mutual cooperation with the three Indochinese states and make Southeast Asia a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality.

If we can achieve these aims without much formality and dogmatism, there is no reason for us not to follow that line. We should not be afraid of being realistic, pragmatic, practical and flexible as long as we arrive at our destination. In search of a political settlement in Kampuchea, we should not discount any slight possibility and throw away any slight chance. It is in this spirit that we should approach the latest Vietnamese move and not dismiss it a priori as a bad job.

Let us talk it over with the other side whether the partial withdrawal will finally lead to complete withdrawal and the proposed limited international conference will lead to national reconciliation in Kampuchea when all national elements, groups and parties will participate in internationally verified free national elections. We should be ready to accept the result of such elections even if the Heng Samrin side dominates the result.

We feel that indirectly Vietnam has come a long way to meet the ASEAN points of view regarding troop withdrawal and international conference. But as far as the proposal for a safety zone is concerned, it may remain a snag at the present stage of political situation where the ASEAN countries recognise the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea.

But this should not in any way discourage us to listen to what the foreign minister of Vietnam would say about this and other aspects of the Kampuchean question when he visits ASEAN countries soon. We may benefit from whatever positive points may emerge from having talks with him. Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach's coming visit should be utilised as much as possible to clear the way for a comprehensive, just and lasting political settlement of the Kampuchean question. The most important thing is to cultivate political willingness on both sides to settle the question peacefully and politically.

GOVERNMENT TO CONTINUE OIL PRODUCTION CUT

BK261534 Hong Kong AFP in English 0713 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Jakarta, July 26 (AFP) -- Indonesia will continue to cut its oil production by 300,000 barrels a day until the world oil situation improves, according to Mining Minister Dr. Subroto. The oil production cut is in line with a decision of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) of which Indonesia is a member, the minister said at the weekend.

Dr. Subroto, who had just returned after attending an OPEC ministerial meeting in Vienna, denied that certain OPEC members had violated the OPEC decision by not reducing their production. "It is not true because they know that such a violation could eventually ruin OPEC itself from within," he said.

He stressed that the production cut was necessary to prevent the oil price of 34 U.S. dollars per barrel from declining further, thus overcoming the current oil glut. The oil production cut will reduce Indonesia's oil revenues by around 800 million U.S. dollars this year.

The leading economic weekly, BUSINESS NEWS, today asked how the government would solve the problem of less revenues. The weekly said in an editorial: "Is the government going to maintain the principle of a balanced budget or adapt the system of deficit spending?" "It is most likely to be safer to maintain the balanced budget though in practice there will be some deficit. Monetary stability will be better ensured," the weekly said. The weekly however warned against imposing devaluation saying it was bound to cause domestic inflation. "If the balanced budget principle is strictly followed, imports will automatically be controlled because most imports are carried out by the government and this will help maintain equilibrium in the balance of payment as well," the weekly added.

MALAYSIASRV FOREIGN MINISTER HOLDS TALKS WITH LEADERS

Talks With Mahathir

BK261311 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed has told Vietnam that it did not have the right to move into Kampuchea to set up a government of its choice in the name of self-defense. He told the visiting Vietnamese foreign minister, Nguyen Co Thach, that the Vietnamese move into Kampuchea was a very dangerous precedent that threatened the small countries. It also meant the bigger power could move into small neighboring countries with impunity. Vietnam should therefore move out of Kampuchea.

The prime minister's remarks were made known by the secretary general of the Foreign Ministry, Tan Sri Zakaria Ali, after the Vietnamese foreign minister had a 45-minute discussion with Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir. Tan Sri Ghazali Shafie and Senior Wisma Putra [Ministry of Foreign Affairs] officials, including Tan Sri Zakaria Ali, were present at the meeting.

Tan Sri Zakaria said the Vietnamese foreign minister had explained at his meeting with the prime minister that the Vietnamese forces were in Kampuchea in self-defense, because Kampuchea had been used to threaten the security of Vietnam, and the Vietnamese foreign minister also said that his country viewed the Kampuchean issue as a Chinese threat to Vietnam. While ASEAN was concerned with Vietnamese occupation of Kampuchea, Vietnam's main concern was the Chinese threat.

To this, Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir replied that the Heng Samrin regime was a government set up in Kampuchea by Vietnam and could not therefore have the legitimacy of a government of the people's choice.

Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir said that Malaysia will, therefore, try to find a political solution by which Kampuchea would have a government of the people's choice through the process of self-determination.

Meanwhile, Mr Nguyen Co Thach is to spend another day in Kuala Lumpur before departing for Bangkok on Wednesday. He had earlier been scheduled to leave tomorrow afternoon. The Vietnamese foreign minister will have another round of talks with Tan Sri Ghazali Shafie tomorrow.

Calls on Rithauddeen

BK270855 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 27 Jul 82

[Text] Malaysia welcomes the Vietnamese efforts to promote trade between the two countries. The bilateral trade between them is slowly picking up. Last year Malaysia's exports to Vietnam were worth about 40,000 ringgit, most of which were motorcycle spareparts.

The principal assistant director of international trade at the Ministry of Trade and Industry, Mr. (Mohan Menon), gave these details to newsmen after the Vietnamese foreign minister, Nguyen Co Thach, called on Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen at his office. He says it is the government policy to encourage the private sector to trade freely with the whole countries. The two ministers also exchanged views on various industries, such as steel and glass as well as oil exploration.

AFP Interview

BK270653 Hong Kong AFP in English 0631 GMT 27 Jul 82

[By N.G. Nair]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, July 27 (AFP) -- Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach said here today that he and Malaysian leaders had agreed not only to continue the dialogue on peace and stability in Southeast Asia, but to refrain from doing anything to worsen the situation.

"This is a very good thing," he said in an interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE at the Vietnamese Embassy here.

Mr Thach, who had discussions with Malaysian Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Foreign Minister Tan Sri Ghazali Shafie here on the Cambodian issue yesterday, said: "We, both sides, have agreed that if we cannot do anything better for peace, we will abstain from doing anything bad for peace."

Hanoi's chief diplomat confirmed that his talks here, as in Singapore earlier, had not bridged the differences over Cambodia where Vietnam has more than 150,000 troops backing the Phnom Penh region of Heng Samrin.

He described the talks here as "very calm, very friendly, very frank and very useful", helping to clear misunderstandings about each other's viewpoint on regional problems. Mr Thach was to fly on to Bangkok tomorrow on the last leg of his four-nation Southeast Asian tour.

Mr Thach's discussions with the Malaysian leaders covered the major points mentioned in the communique issued by the Indochinese foreign ministers after their meeting in Ho Chi Minh City earlier this month, including a partial pullout of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia.

He said that a "significant number" of troops had already been withdrawn, but sidestepped a question of the numbers involved, saying amidst laughter: "I will ask my commander in chief to give you the answer." Asked when more troops would leave, the Vietnamese minister said: "It would follow the cessation of Thai support to the Khmer Rouge and the camouflaged Khmer Rouge," referring to the ousted Cambodian regime and its backers.

Mr Thach reiterated that a complete withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia would depend on the removal of the "Chinese threat to our security." Asked when Hanoi would consider the threat removed, he pointed out that they had already proposed the signing of a non-aggression pact between Vietnam and China.

Mr Thach reiterated his earlier statements that the recent formation of a anti-Vietnamese coalition government -- promoted by the non-communist Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) -- was interference in the internal affairs of Cambodia.

He said the people of Cambodia supported the Heng Samrin government. "It is for the people of Cambodia to decide their government. It is not our problem. Why should we consider the internal matters of the Cambodian people? Why should other people worry about elections in Vietnam or Malaysia?" he asked.

Mr Thach said the people of Cambodia were afraid that the Khmer Rouge of Pol Pot, general held responsible for mass killings during their rule 1975-79, will return if the Vietnamese troops were completely withdrawn. He dismissed the resistance coalition joining the Khmer rouge and two non-communist groups as merely a "cosmetic to deceive the people."

Underlining the seriousness of the Chinese threat he said that China had been wanting to dominate the region long before Vietnamese troops went into Cambodia. He said history showed that from the 19th century there had been at least ten Chinese invasions in the area. In this context, he said, Vietnam "appreciated very much" the ASEAN concept of the zone of peace, freedom and neutrality (ZOPFAN) for Southeast Asia. He added that it was a pity that Malaysia and other countries were not pursuing the idea more vigorously.

SINGAPORESTRAITS TIMES SCORES THACH STATEMENTS

BK230937 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 22 Jul 82 p 14

[Editorial: "Bully in the Neighbourhood"]

[Text] Imagine this region to be your neighbourhood. As a good citizen, all you want is peace and good relations among all residents. But your immediate neighbour has been forcibly ejected from his home by the chap living on the other side who has long coveted his property. You do not much care for your neighbour who is not a very pleasant fellow. But what he does in his own house is his business and no one has a right to march in and just take it over.

Naturally, you have to do something about it. Although you have no quarrel with the new occupant, his action is manifestly unneighbourly and wrong. So you try to persuade him to withdraw and, at the same time, try to give your evicted neighbour what advice and support you can to help him recover his home. In all this, you are merely doing your duty as a resident of the neighborhood and as a law-abiding citizen.

However, the new occupant does not see things this way at all. Having taken over the property by force, he now regards it as his by right. The owner's attempts to recover his home are seen by the occupier as trespass and your efforts to help are denounced as interference deserving of retaliation. It is an incredible and a ridiculous form of reasoning, of course. But that is the kind of logic to be expected of someone who knows and respects no law but that of the jungle where might is right. In short, that is the logic to be expected of a thug.

It would probably be unfair to describe the Vietnamese foreign minister, Mr Nguyen Co Thach, as a thug. He hardly looks the sort of person who would barge into someone else's home, throw out the occupants and threaten anyone who tries to reason with him. But that is precisely what his country has done, to Cambodia, to ASEAN. And although Mr Thach (one presumes) was not among the troops that marched into Cambodia to eject its legal rulers, he is certainly the one uttering the threats against ASEAN.

But then he is only speaking on behalf of his country, whose behavior has been that of the neighbourhood bully. His statements should dispel any illusions some might have that Vietnamese troops are in Cambodia and Laos only to protect them from China. If that were true, there would be no need for them to remain in Laos, as Mr Thach says they will, even after China commits itself to nonaggression in Indochina. And if Vietnam really saw China as such a threat, how could Mr Thach envisage a scenario in which the two countries would normalise relations while engaging in hostilities against ASEAN countries? But even bullies need excuses to dress up their bullying and the China threat serves in this respect. The bottom line is that Vietnam now regards all of Indochina as its property and will not countenance anyone arguing otherwise.

BRIEFS

SABAH TRADE SURPLUS -- Sabah has recorded a trade surplus of 665 million ringgit for the first 4 months of this year, over 5 times more than the surplus for the same period last year. This was attributed to the increase in the export of timber log and crude petroleum. The state export stood at 1.684 million ringgit against import of 1.019 million ringgit. Timber log export rose from 154 million ringgit to 626 million ringgit and crude petroleum from 544 million to 646 million ringgit. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 15 Jul 82 BK]

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